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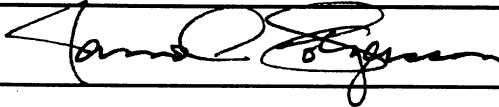
Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND
CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Leslye Corsiglia

SUBJECT: HOMELESS COUNT AND SURVEY **DATE:** April 8, 2005

Approved



Date

4.11.05

COUNCIL DISTRICT: Citywide

INFORMATION

On December 14 and 15, 2004, the City of San Jose, in partnership with the County of Santa Clara and cities throughout the county, conducted a street enumeration of the County's homeless population. The count identified 3,101 homeless individuals living on the street and in other locations "not designed for human habitation" and an additional 1,809 homeless individuals and families in either emergency shelters or transitional housing facilities, for a total of 4,910 homeless people in the City of San Jose. The census found a total of 7,646 homeless individuals in all of Santa Clara County.

This effort represents the first comprehensive survey of the County's homeless population. In 1999, the City worked with the County over a two-week period to conduct a study using a questionnaire. The results concluded that there were approximately 12,600 episodes of homelessness each year in Santa Clara County. Because the methods of counting the homeless differ between the 1999 questionnaire and the 2004 homeless count, it is not possible to determine whether the number of homeless has grown. The City and its partners intend to conduct additional surveys every two years to provide data that will allow us to compare and measure the number of homeless people in San José.

The homeless census was followed by a comprehensive survey designed to provide insight to the causes of homelessness and the gaps in the service delivery system. The survey was conducted through the end of December 2004 at several locations throughout the County, covering all census tracks. The City's Homeless Coordinator worked with over 400 volunteers to complete the count and survey. Fifty percent of the volunteers were homeless individuals themselves, who received a cash stipend for their time.

According to the survey respondents, some of the causes of their homelessness include drug use (20.5%), unemployment or job loss (17.5%), an inability to pay rent or a mortgage (14.7%), or an argument with family or friends (12.7%). Nearly 75% of respondents reported having a current or past disabling condition. Over a third of the respondents (36%) reported having experienced mental illness or depression. Almost one-fifth (18%) were employed either full-

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

April 8, 2005

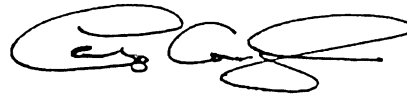
Subject: Homeless Count and Survey

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time or part-time while 57% received no form of direct public income support (i.e., SSI, SSDI, General Relief, etc.)

Attached is the final draft of the Santa Clara County Homeless Count and Survey. In the coming days, Housing Department staff will be analyzing the census and survey results more closely. The Department will present the findings, as well as current and planned efforts to address the problem of homelessness and the status of the City's 10 Year Homeless Strategy to the Driving a Strong Economy Committee.

Please feel free to call me at 277-3863 if you have any questions.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Leslye Corsiglia', with a stylized, looping flourish at the end.

LESLYE CORSIGLIA
Director of Housing

Attachment



The 2004 Santa Clara County Homeless Census and Survey

April 2005

Prepared by



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Acknowledgements

The County of Santa Clara acknowledges the considerable talents and efforts of many individuals who helped to assure the success of this endeavor. The County also thanks the service providers and community volunteers who helped with the census and in administering surveys to homeless clients, facilitated the process of homeless peer enumerators by recruiting census workers, and opened the doors of their facilities to host training sessions or to deploy the homeless census workers. Finally, the County thanks the homeless census workers and survey respondents whose efforts are reflected throughout the findings of this report.

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PHOTOGRAPHY BY JON WARREN FOR CITYTEAM MINISTRIES

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Project Purpose and Goals

In 2001, the United States government adopted a national goal of ending chronic homelessness in ten years.¹ Furthermore, the U.S. Congress require that county or community entities receiving federal funds under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act conduct biennial point-in-time counts of their homeless populations, including street persons. For these reasons, and more importantly, because of the Santa Clara County Office of Affordable Housing desire for more accurate and useful data, the County and its municipal governments undertook this homeless census and survey.

The 2004 Santa Clara County Homeless Census and Survey Project Committee identified several important project goals:

- To increase public awareness of homeless issues and generate support for constructive solutions.
- To provide a baseline to measure changes in the numbers and characteristics of the homeless population, and to track progress towards ending chronic homelessness.
- To improve the ability of service providers to plan and implement services that meet the needs of the homeless.
- To preserve current federal funding for homeless services and to enhance the ability to raise new funds.

The results of this research will assist service providers, policy makers, funding sources, and local, state, and federal governments in better understanding and planning for the needs of the homeless population by examining current statistics in various geographical contexts. It is hoped that the results of the 2004 Santa Clara County Homeless Census and Survey will help improve current homeless management policy and empower all agencies and groups to more effectively develop services and programs to serve the County's homeless population.

¹ The White House. *President's New Freedom Initiative*. 2004.

Research Summary

The data presented in this report provide an initial baseline view of the homeless in Santa Clara County. It is hoped that the census and survey will be repeated so the County may track changes over time. In addition, the results of this report are intended to:

- Comply with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) homeless enumeration guidelines,
- Create a new baseline for data about the Santa Clara County homeless population,
- Inform the Office of Affordable Housing on progress towards addressing remedies for homelessness, and
- Provide a methodology to be replicated and possibly refined in future studies.

The Santa Clara County Office of Affordable Housing will likely want to review the census and survey data to further develop understandings of common causes and contributing factors to homelessness, and thereby, examine the current and best possible strategies to address remedies and mitigating efforts.

In an attempt to provide an objective, consistent review of the County's homeless, the McKinney-Vento definition of homelessness was used in all research methodology decisions:

1. *An individual who lacks a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence, and*
2. *An individual who has a primary nighttime residence that is:*
 - a. *A supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations (including welfare hotels, congregate shelters, and transitional housing for the mentally ill), or*
 - b. *An institution that provides a temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized, or*
 - c. *A public or private place not designated for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.*

This definition does not allow for those marginally housed, though it is clear this group accesses homeless services. There may also be discussions concerning strategies to gather more data on various hard-to-reach homeless sub-groups. In particular, those groups are:

- People inhabiting structures unfit for human occupation such as garages and sheds.
- Youth populations who are prone to “couch surf” and occupy abandoned structures.
- Immigrant populations whose over-crowded living conditions frequently cross the line of over-crowded into definitional homelessness.

The Santa Clara County Office of Affordable Housing may also wish to examine the methodologies utilized to collect data, and the mechanics of the data collection for these challenging subpopulations in future research efforts.

Executive Summary

Methodology

The two-fold methodology used in this study has been cited as a recommended approach by HUD, and was successfully implemented in several counties across California, including Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Santa Cruz, and Monterey Counties, and in the HUD cited case study of Atlanta and Fulton and DeKalb counties.

At the core of the research methodology is the commitment that homeless persons must be integrated into the research through their participation on census and survey data collection teams. The first component of this methodology was a peer-oriented, point-in-time (daily) count of street and sheltered homeless. The street count portion of the census was accomplished through a systematic canvassing of all 341 census tracts throughout Santa Clara County, while the shelter count involved the reporting of occupancies from shelters and institutions – emergency shelters, transitional housing programs, hospitals, jails, and hotels and motels that accept vouchers – to the Santa Clara County Office of Affordable Housing. These occupancies were reported on the night of the census. To supplement the point-in-time figure, an annual projection of homeless individuals to estimate the number of people who experience homelessness in a calendar year was also calculated.

The second major component of the project consisted of comprehensive one-on-one interviews conducted by trained homeless workers and service providers. A total of 1,796 homeless Santa Clara County residents were interviewed from late December 2004 to mid-February 2005. All of the research activities relied heavily on homeless residents and service providers in the data collection phase. The results of the survey were then used to generate an informative profile about the County's homeless population. It should be noted that like almost all homeless surveys, the respondent sample was not truly random, though the fact that over 23% of the homeless population were surveyed enables us to feel very confident about our findings.

The Number of Homeless Persons in Santa Clara County

The 2004 Santa Clara County Homeless Census resulted in a count of 7,646 homeless people on streets and in emergency shelters, transitional housing, domestic violence shelters, hospitals, jails, and rehabilitation facilities. Survey data regarding the average length of homelessness indicates that the homeless population renews itself approximately 2.66 times every year. In other words, for every one person who experiences homelessness at a given point in time, 2.66 people experience homelessness annually. This projects to an annual estimate of 20,338 persons who were homeless some time during 2004. Based on the 2004 population estimates from the State of California

Department of Finance, this annual estimate of homelessness represents approximately 1% of Santa Clara County's total population of 1,739,380 people. These findings are similar to results seen across California. The California Research Bureau estimates the number of people who experience homelessness over the course of a year in California to be between one and two million people, or approximately 3% of the general population.²

A Profile of Homelessness

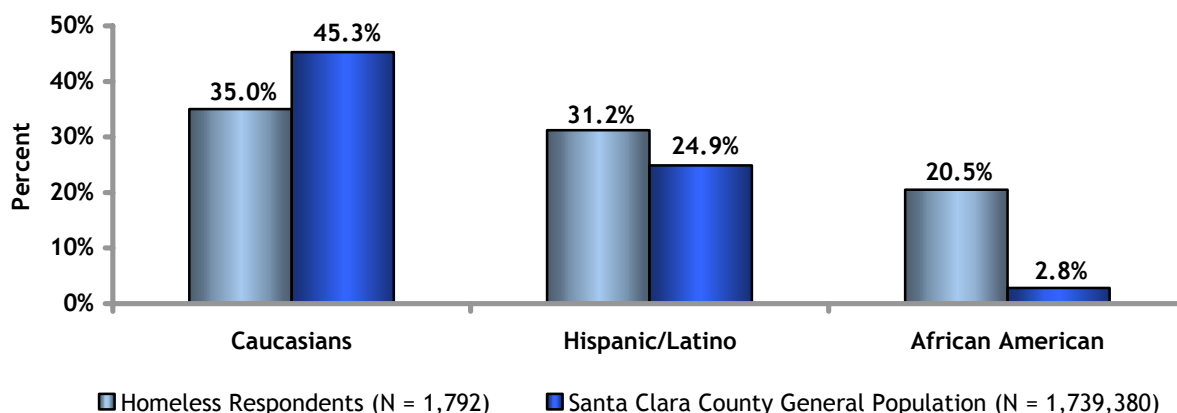
Of the 7,646 homeless people identified in the point-in-time count, 36% were in shelter facilities and 64% were unsheltered. This represents the importance of street-based versus shelter-centered enumeration efforts.

- At least 16% of homeless people on the streets on census night were single females.
- Almost 16% of the people in the street and shelter counts were in families (families were defined as an adult or couple with a child present for the street count, and as a couple living together with or without a child for the shelter count).
- Approximately 11% of survey respondents had children under the age of 18 living with them.

Demographically, the population is diverse: the majority of homeless survey respondents were Caucasian (35%), while 31% were Hispanic or Latino, 21% were Black or African American, 5% were Asian or Pacific Islander, 4% were American Indian or Alaskan Native, and 5% identified themselves with other or multiple racial or ethnic groups. The two largest age groups were 31-40 years old (27%) and 41-50 years old (28%).

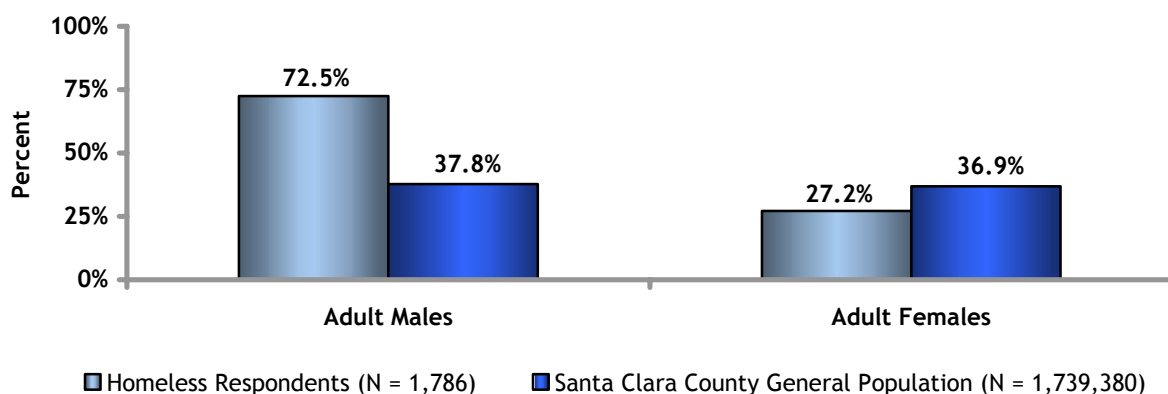
According to the State of California Department of Finance population estimates, Hispanics/Latinos comprise 25% of the total population of Santa Clara County, while African Americans account for just 3% of the County's total population. Therefore, Hispanics/Latinos (31%) and African Americans (21%) are over-represented as ethnic groups in the survey population as compared to the general population of Santa Clara County.

² Foster, Lisa K. and Snowdon, Patricia. *Addressing Long-Term Homelessness: Permanent Supportive Housing*. California Research Bureau. August 2003.

Figure 1: Homeless Respondents by Ethnicity (Top 3 ethnicities)

Santa Clara County General Population data source: State of California, Department of Finance, Race/Ethnic Population with Age and Sex Detail, 2000-2050.

According to the estimates, adult males comprise 38% of the general population of Santa Clara County. In comparison to the general population estimates, males were over-represented in the survey population (73%).

Figure 2: Homeless Respondents by Gender

Santa Clara County General Population data source: State of California, Department of Finance, Race/Ethnic Population with Age and Sex Detail, 2000-2050.

Note: Five respondents (0.3%) indicated their sex as "Transgender."

Additionally, adult females account for 37% of the County's general population. Females, making up 27% of the survey population, were under-represented when compared to the County population estimates. A study conducted in Long Beach, CA in 2003 yielded similar results (72% male, 28% female).³ The California Research Bureau estimates that approximately 45% of California's homeless population is male, single

³ The City of Long Beach 2004 Homeless Assessment, 2005.

women represent 14% of the state's homeless population, and women with children account for 40% of the homeless population.⁴

There were 1,796 homeless people interviewed throughout Santa Clara County from late December 2004 through February 2005 to provide a profile of homelessness. Survey response analysis suggests the following profile of a typical homeless person:

- Median age of 40, is Caucasian, and male,
- Homeless for one year or less,
- Occupies an emergency shelter as a usual nighttime accommodation,
- Lived in Santa Clara County for 10 years or more,
- Cites alcohol or drug use and unemployment as the primary causes of homelessness,
- No high school diploma or GED,
- Unemployed at the time of the survey,
- Receives no form of government assistance, and
- Most commonly received medical attention at a hospital emergency room.

A profile of the chronically homeless was obtained from the data gathered from the homeless survey. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development defines chronic homelessness as:

An unaccompanied individual with a disabling condition who has been:

- 1. Continually homeless for one year or more, or*
- 2. Has experienced four or more episodes of homelessness within the past 3 years.*

It should be noted that "a disabling condition" included physical and mental disabilities, as well as alcoholism and drug addiction. Of the 1,796 homeless survey respondents, approximately 35% (623 respondents) can be considered chronically homeless. This finding was high in comparison to the common estimate that 10% of the homeless population is considered to be chronically homeless.⁵ However, our survey also found that 76% of the homeless respondents had a self-defined disabling condition, which provided us with a large sample to draw from.

⁴ Foster, Lisa K. and Snowdon, Patricia. California Research Bureau. *Addressing Long-Term Homelessness: Permanent Supportive Housing*. August 2003.

⁵ NACo Resolution Supporting Administration's Ten-Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness. Milwaukee, WI. July 15, 2003.

The Daily Condition of Homeless Persons – Survey Results

Length of Homelessness (N=1,784)

- Just over 23% of homeless survey respondents indicated they had been homeless for less than three months, while approximately 59% of all survey respondents said they had been homeless for one year or less.
- Slightly more than 41% of homeless survey respondents indicated they had been homeless for one year or more. Just over 28% indicated they had been homeless at least two times in the last 12 months.

Usual Sleeping Arrangements (N=1,728)

- Although 37% of survey respondents indicated their usual nighttime sleeping arrangement was in a shelter or temporary housing (transitional housing facility, or short-term housing), slightly more than 22% indicated they regularly slept outdoors. Approximately 14% were staying with friends or family, while another 27% were marginally housed, meaning their usual sleeping arrangements are in a converted garage, a backyard storage structure, or a place other than the outdoors not meant to be used as shelter for human beings.
- Almost 14% of survey respondents indicated they had tried to access a shelter or transitional housing facility in Santa Clara County in the past 30 days, but had been turned away. The most common reason for being turned away was the shelter had no beds available (52%), followed by not following the shelter rules (17%) and not qualifying to stay in the shelter (14%).
- Approximately 9% slept in a car or other vehicle.
- Nearly 5% slept in a hotel or motel room, and 2% slept in an abandoned building.

Employment (N=1,794)

- Approximately 19% were employed part time or full time.
- The two leading causes of unemployment were health problems (25%) and a lack of jobs (25%).

Access of Government Assistance (N=1,758)

- Almost 58% of survey respondents indicated they received no government assistance through general relief, food stamps, SSI/SSDI, CalWorks, Medi-Cal, or Veteran's benefits.

Domestic Violence (N=1,785)

- Nearly one in three (33%) respondents indicated they had experienced domestic violence during their lifetime.
- Over 55% of female survey respondents had experienced domestic violence.

Disabling Conditions (N=1,786)

- Overall, nearly 75% of survey respondents indicated they had experienced a disabling condition.
- Approximately 45% reported they had experienced drug addiction, while another 45% indicated they had experienced alcoholism.
- Nearly 36% of respondents had experienced mental illness or depression.
- Just under 27% indicated they had experienced a physical disability.

The Primary Reason for Becoming Homeless

Survey respondents said that alcohol or drug use was a primary cause of their homelessness; this cause was named in approximately 21% of the responses. Other common causes of homelessness were the loss of employment (18%), an inability to pay the rent or mortgage (15%), an argument with family or friends (13%), and being recently released from jail or prison (11%).

Figure 3: Primary Reasons for Homelessness

REASON	% OF TOTAL
Alcohol or drug use	20.5%
Lost job (unemployment)	17.5%
Unable to pay rent / mortgage	14.7%
Argument with family / friends	12.7%
Released from jail / prison	10.5%
Other reasons	5.0%
Illness or medical problem	4.5%
Mental health issues	4.5%
Family violence	4.2%
Divorce	3.3%
Released from treatment program	1.6%
Emancipation from foster care	0.7%
Released from hospital	0.3%

N = 1,580

Note: Two hundred-sixteen people declined to respond to this question.

Conclusion

The stereotype of the single homeless man who comes from out of town, is chronically homeless, and lives off government assistance is not held up by the 2004 Santa Clara County Homeless Census and Survey. The homeless survey showed that the typical homeless person in Santa Clara County had lived in the County for over 10 years, had been homeless for one year or less, and received no government assistance whatsoever. At least 16% of the homeless people counted on the streets were single women and almost 16% of the people on the street and in shelters were in families.

The point-in-time census showed that there were 7,646 homeless people identified in Santa Clara County. This count, however, should be considered conservative since it is well known that even with the most thorough methodology, many homeless will not be found. Additionally, informants indicated that there are many private, informal shelters at churches and private homes that do not choose to be integrated into the County's homeless services network.

The largest percentages of homeless people surveyed were White/Caucasian (35%), Hispanic/Latino (31%) and Black/African American (21%).

One in five survey respondents reported that the primary cause of their homelessness was due to alcohol or drug use. Further, almost half of all homeless respondents have experienced alcoholism or drug addiction. Other key causes of homelessness included economic factors such as job loss, unemployment and the inability to pay the rent or mortgage. Nearly 19% of the homeless were working full or part-time.

This report provides a snapshot of homelessness in Santa Clara County, including insights into the causes and conditions of local homeless people. It is hoped that this report will contribute to Santa Clara County's efforts to end homelessness.

Census Methodology

The census methodology had two components, a street count and a shelter and institution count. The street count results were combined with the shelter and institution count to produce a single point-in-time count of the Santa Clara County homeless. A more detailed discussion of these components follows.

Street Count Methodology

The goal of the 2004 Santa Clara County Homeless Census was to generate quantitative data regarding the number of County residents who are homeless at a given point in time, as well as estimate the number of County residents who experience homelessness annually. A critical component of the census methodology was the recruitment, training, and deployment of homeless individuals. This group of people possessed intimate knowledge of places homeless individuals were likely to be found. It is believed that a homeless census would not be successful without the assistance of these individuals. Previous homeless enumeration efforts in other communities have proven the reliability and integrity of homeless participation.

Almost 700 homeless workers and service provider volunteers conducted the street count on the mornings of December 14 and 15, 2004. Homeless workers were paid \$10.00 for completing a training session the week prior to the census, and \$10.00 per hour for participating in census activities. Census teams were provided with clipboards and Geographical Information System (GIS) census tract maps of the areas to which they were assigned, pencils, and a recap of the census training documents. Homeless workers who provided their own transportation were reimbursed for their mileage. A few homeless workers with bicycles were teamed together to conduct the count. In two days, all 341 census tracts in Santa Clara County were enumerated.

No direct contact with research subjects was made during the census enumeration. To avoid potential duplication of unsheltered and sheltered homeless, it was imperative to enumerate in a narrow timeframe when sheltered and unsheltered homeless do not co-mingle. Therefore, visual-only enumeration strategies were employed. All streets, roads, and highways in countywide were traveled by foot, bike, or car, and subjects were counted and tallied according to these observed categories:

Individuals:

- Adult Male
- Adult Female
- Youth (under age 18)
- Undetermined gender/age

Family Members:

- Adult Male
- Adult Female
- Youth (under age 18)

Notations:

- Vehicles (cars, vans, RV's, campers, etc.)
- Encampments

Teams were deployed from five sites on Tuesday, December 14, and two sites on Wednesday, December 15. Homeless workers gathered at the sites at 5:00 AM for area assignments, supplies, and a brief training review. Workers returned to their deployment sites prior to 9:00 AM. Upon their return, teams turned in their census tally forms and were debriefed by the deployment captains. Observational comments and the integrity of the enumeration effort were reviewed and assessed.

Shelter and Institution Count

The homeless occupancy of emergency shelters, transitional shelters, critical care hospitals, residential rehabilitation facilities, and jails were collected for the night prior to the census. In general, most respondents reported shelter counts for the evening of December 14, 2004. The Winter Shelter Armory program was in place for the Sunnyvale and Gilroy armories. These cities received the winter shelter counts in their results.

Data Collection

The shelter and institution count was conducted using a list of all known shelter and institution operators in Santa Clara County as provided by the Office of Affordable Housing. Shelter facilities reported their occupancies the night prior to the census to the Office of Affordable Housing. Those occupancies were then disseminated to Applied Survey Research for analysis.

Shelter Types

Many different types of shelters and institutions participated in the 2004 Santa Clara County Homeless Census. Among them were:

- Emergency shelters.
- Transitional housing programs.
- Domestic violence shelters.
- Veteran's Administration programs.
- Men's and women's recovery programs.
- Hospitals.
- Homeless drug and alcohol rehabilitation facilities.
- Jails and prisons.

Homeless Census Challenges and Assumptions

Challenges

There are many challenges in any homeless enumeration, especially when implemented in a community as large and diverse as Santa Clara County. While homeless populations are usually concentrated around downtown emergency shelters and homeless service facilities, homeless individuals and families can also be found in suburbs, commercial districts, and outlying county areas that are not easily accessible by enumerators. Homeless populations include numerous subsets such as:

- Chronically homeless persons who may or may not access social and health services;
- Persons living in vehicles who relocate every few days;
- Persons who have children and therefore stay “under the radar” for fear of having to turn their children over to Child Protective Services;
- Homeless youth, who tend to keep themselves less visible than homeless adults, and
- Immigrants who overcrowd shared residences or rental units above legal occupancy levels.
- Homeless people who sleep in unfit structures.

Census Undercount

In this non-intrusive, point-in-time, physical homeless enumeration, it should be noted that the methods employed, while academically sound, have inherent biases and shortcomings. Even with the assistance of dedicated homeless service providers and current or previously homeless census enumerators, the methodology cannot guarantee 100% accuracy. Many factors may contribute to missed opportunities, for example:

- For the employed homeless, there is frequently pre-dawn movement to get to jobs. These individuals may not have been identified as being homeless.
- Homeless individuals many times occupy abandoned buildings and other structures unfit for human habitation. The resources for the 2004 homeless census and survey project could not cover an inspection of all prospective structures.
- Homeless youth tend to “couch surf” from one location to another, making their identification difficult.

- Likewise, homeless families with children will more likely seek opportunities to double up in housing with family or friends, rather than sleep on the street, in vehicles, or makeshift shelters.
- It can be difficult to identify homeless persons who may be sleeping in vans, cars, or recreational vehicles.

By counting the minimum number of homeless persons on the street at a given time, the homeless census methodology is conservative, and therefore most likely results in an undercount of homeless without citizenship, some of the working homeless, families, and street youth. This conservative approach is necessary to preserve the integrity of the data collected. It is noteworthy that even though the census is most likely to be an undercount of the homeless population, the methodology employed, coupled with the homeless survey data to inform the acknowledged undercount, is the most comprehensive approach available.

Assumptions of Annual Estimation

The calculations used to project an annual estimate of homelessness are based on two very important assumptions.

1. The information gathered in the homeless survey is indicative of responses that would have been given at any other time during the year and is representative of the general diversity of the study area's homeless population.
2. The point-in-time census count is reasonably indicative of a count that would have been obtained at any other time during the year.

Service providers have supported these assumptions by indicating that the demand for services stayed relatively consistent over time. Additionally, the gross number of homeless accessing services does not fluctuate to a great degree, although the proportion of sheltered versus unsheltered homeless does vary with the seasons.

Estimates of the number of people who experience homelessness in a given year are important for planning purposes and HUD reporting requirements. Because many homeless experiences are relatively short-term (less than a year), it is important to account for this phenomenon when determining the annual demand for homeless services.

Given the size of the survey sample (1,796), the complete county coverage achieved in during the census, the undercount inherent in any homeless census, as well as the use of a minimum turnover rate for each category, the Office of Affordable Housing and Applied Survey Research determined this methodology to be the most complete and accurate of all available approaches.

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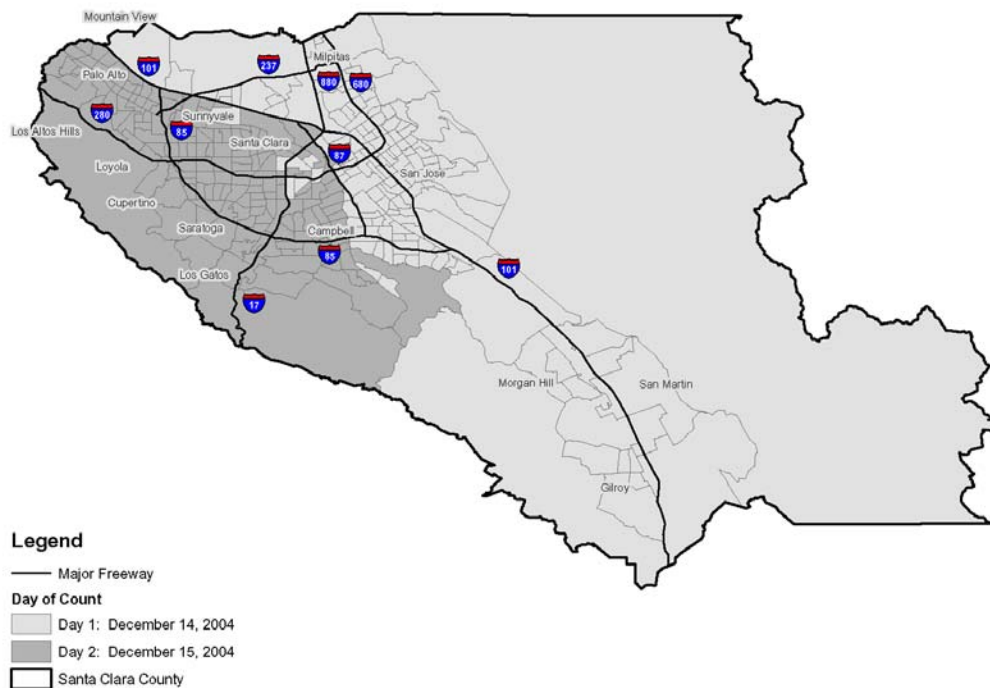
To accurately enumerate the County’s homeless population, a point-in-time census was conducted of:

1. Unsheltered homeless people, including those found on streets, in vehicles, in makeshift shelters (such as tents), and encampments;
2. A count of those occupying short-stay institutions such as hospitals, residential rehabilitation facilities, and jails; and
3. Sheltered homeless people occupying emergency shelters, transitional housing, and domestic violence shelters.

Number of Unsheltered Homeless People

The point-in-time street count was conducted on December 14 and 15 from approximately 5:00 am to 9:00 am. Census enumerators canvassed all of the 341 U. S. Census Tracts in the County. Shelters and institutions reported their occupancy for the night prior to the census.

2004 Santa Clara Homeless Census Street Count Days



There were 4,868 persons counted in the point-in-time street census. In addition, 2,778 persons were counted in the point-in-time shelter and institutional census. The street and shelter census totaled 7,646 homeless persons. The 4,868 homeless persons identified during the street count were categorized according to their age, gender, and familial status. For the purposes of this study, a family was defined as a single adult or an adult couple with at least one child under the age of 18.

Figure 4: Number of Homeless People Counted During the Street Count

Homeless Individuals				
Individual Male	Individual Female	Individual Youth	Unknown Gender	Sub total
2,733	779	163	474	4,149

Homeless Families				
# of Family Units	Males	Females	Youth	Sub total
71	62	74	104	240

People Found in Vehicles and Encampments			
Cars	Vans, RV's, Campers	Encampments	Sub total
88	256	135	479

Total of Unsheltered Individuals and Families				
Males	Females	Youth	Unknown Gender	Total
2,795	853	267	953	4,868

Note: "Unknown Gender" includes whose gender or age could not be determined.

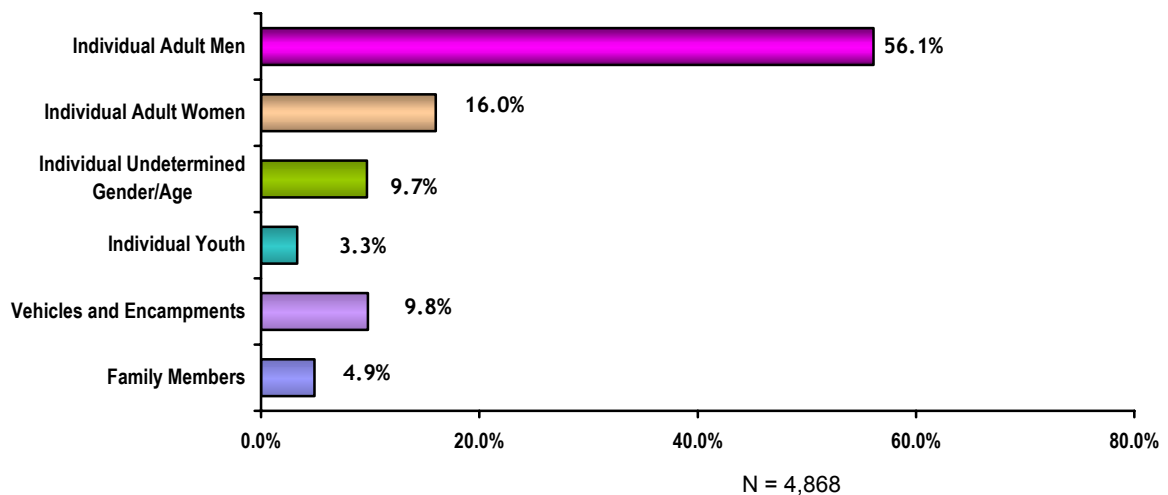
During the course of the street count, many enumerators came upon cars, vans, RV's, and other types of vehicles with sleeping occupants. Other enumerators were able to identify actively occupied homeless encampments. Out of concern for the privacy of the homeless community and the safety of the enumerators, census workers were instructed not to approach vehicles or to enter encampment areas. Instead, they were asked to notate on their census tally sheet how many vehicles or encampments they discovered.

The number of homeless persons in vehicles was calculated using empirical data from a 1990 study of the Santa Cruz County homeless population. During that study, 227 cars were counted containing a total of 397 people, yielding an average of 1.75 persons found in each car. For this study, and because of the difficulty of working with fractional numbers in regards to census results, the average, or multiplier, was rounded up to two people per car. This multiplier was applied to every vehicle identified, resulting in the numbers shown in the above chart.

There have been few, if any, studies on typical sizes of homeless encampments. The definition of an encampment for the purposes of this study was one or more makeshift structures for living, including (but not limited to) tents, tarps, cardboard, or crates actively being occupied by homeless persons. Wherever possible, enumerators were asked to write notes about the encampments found and estimate its probable size. Deployment captains interviewed teams about all of their comments. In Santa Clara County, our interpretation of the interviews and tally sheets resulted in an estimated range of encampment size to be between two and four persons (gender and age unknown). For the purposes of this study Applied Survey Research chose an average of the range, or three persons per encampment. Again, this multiplier was applied to every encampment identified, producing the result in the above chart. This should be considered as an informed, intuitive number, and not scientific. It is important to note that all enumerators were instructed to only note actively occupied tents and encampments, and does not include vacant sites.

The graph below illustrates the distribution of all people identified during the street count on the mornings of December 14 and 15:

Figure 5: Total of All Unsheltered People, by Gender, Adult or Youth, and Family Status



Over half of all persons sighted during the street count were individual males (56%). Sixteen percent of the total were individual females, and nearly 10% were people whose age or gender could not be determined. Approximately 10% of those found in the street count were estimated to be living in vehicles or encampments. Just below 5% of those counted were in families.

Number of Sheltered Homeless People

Shelter Count

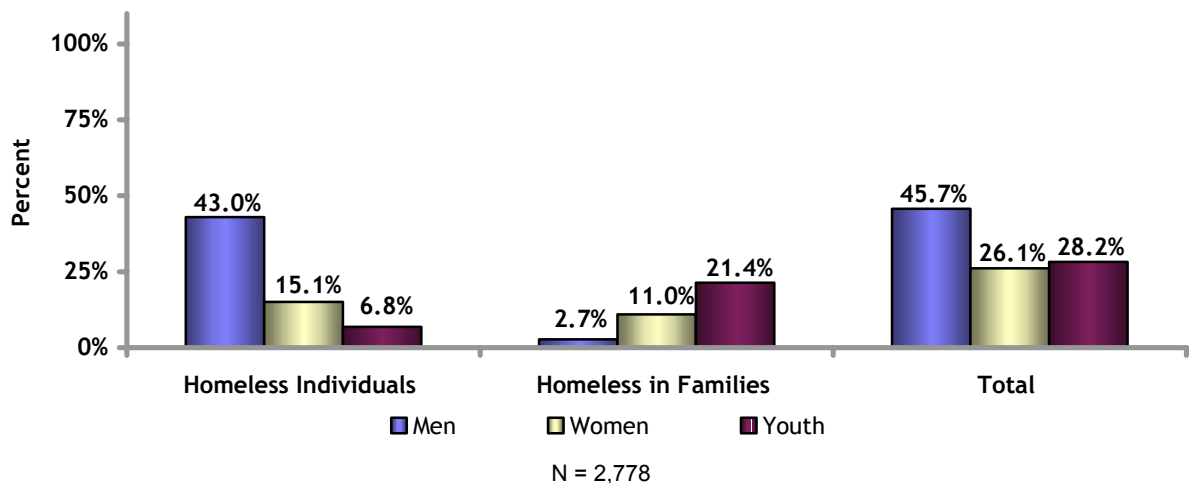
The number of homeless persons occupying emergency shelters, transitional housing, domestic violence shelters, and institutional housing were enumerated in conjunction with the street count.

A total of 2,778 people were counted in the point-in-time shelter census. The following tables are a breakdown of the point-in-time shelter count by gender and familial status.

Figure 6: Point-in-Time Sheltered Occupancy, by Gender and Individual or Family Status

	HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS				HOMELESS FAMILIES				TOTAL
	SINGLE MALE	SINGLE FEMALE	SINGLE YOUTH	SUB TOTAL	MALE IN FAMILY	FEMALE IN FAMILY	YOUTH IN FAMILY	SUB TOTAL	
Total	1,195	419	190	1,804	75	305	594	974	2,778

Figure 7: Sheltered Census by Gender and Individual or Family Status



The following tables further illustrate the results of the shelter count by the type of shelter facility.

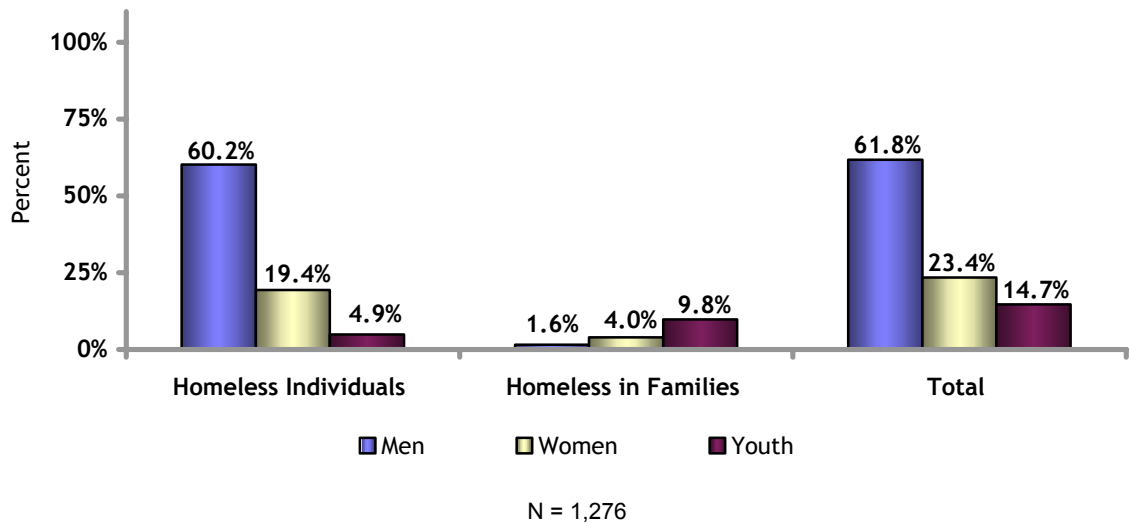
Emergency Shelter Results

As shown in the following table, a total of 1,276 people were housed in emergency shelters during the point-in-time enumeration. Most (85%) of those counted in emergency shelters were individuals, while approximately 15% were in families.

Figure 8: Number of Homeless Persons Counted in Reporting Emergency Shelters

	HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS				HOMELESS FAMILIES				TOTAL
	SINGLE MALE	SINGLE FEMALE	SINGLE YOUTH	SUB TOTAL	MALE IN FAMILY	FEMALE IN FAMILY	YOUTH IN FAMILY	SUB TOTAL	
Total	768	248	63	1,079	21	51	125	197	1,276

Note: Totals may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

Figure 9: Emergency Shelter Occupancy, by Gender and Individual or Family Status

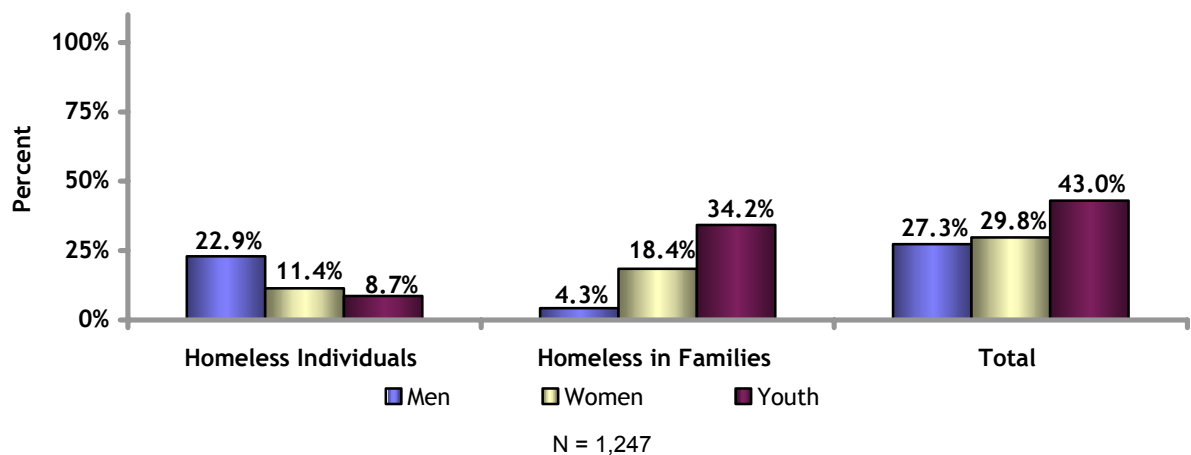
Transitional Housing Results

A total of 1,247 homeless persons were housed in transitional housing facilities. As the program target population would suggest, the majority of those counted in transitional housing facilities were in families (57%) as compared to individuals (43%). Males in families accounted for over 4% of the total transitional housing population, while females comprised approximately 18% of the transitional housing population. The greatest number of people reported in families were youth under 18 years old, making up 34% of the transitional housing population. Individual males accounted for 23% of those in transitional housing, while individual females and unaccompanied youth made up 11% and 9%, respectively. Overall, individuals comprised 43% of all people in transitional housing.

Figure 10: Number of Homeless Persons Counted in Reporting Transitional Housing Units

	HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS				HOMELESS FAMILIES				TOTAL
	SINGLE MALE	SINGLE FEMALE	SINGLE YOUTH	SUB TOTAL	MALE IN FAMILY	FEMALE IN FAMILY	YOUTH IN FAMILY	SUB TOTAL	
Total	286	142	109	537	54	229	427	710	1,247

Note: Totals may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

Figure 11: Transitional Housing Occupancy, by Gender and Individual or Family Status

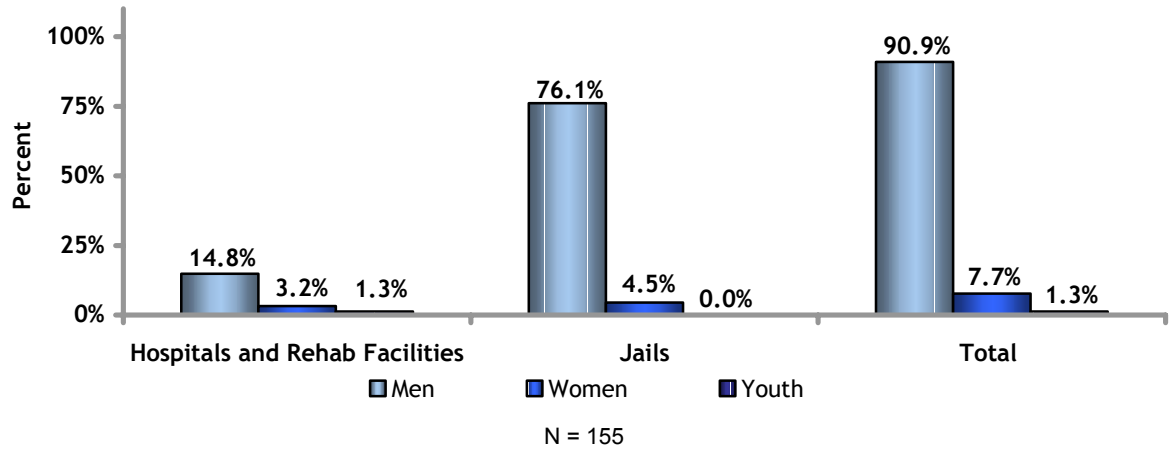
Hospital and Jail Results

A total of 155 homeless persons were counted in institutional facilities – hospitals, rehabilitation facilities, and jails. These people accounted for nearly 6% of the total number of people identified during the shelter count. Of homeless individuals counted in these facilities, an overwhelming majority (91%) were single males.

Figure 12: Number of Homeless People Occupying Hospitals, Rehabilitation Facilities, and Jails

	HOSPITALS AND REHAB FACILITIES				JAILS				TOTAL
	SINGLE MALE	SINGLE FEMALE	SINGLE YOUTH	SUB TOTAL	SINGLE MALE	SINGLE FEMALE	SINGLE YOUTH	SUB TOTAL	
Total	23	5	2	30	118	7	0	125	155

Note: Totals may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

Figure 13: Individuals in Hospitals, Rehabilitation Facilities, and Jails

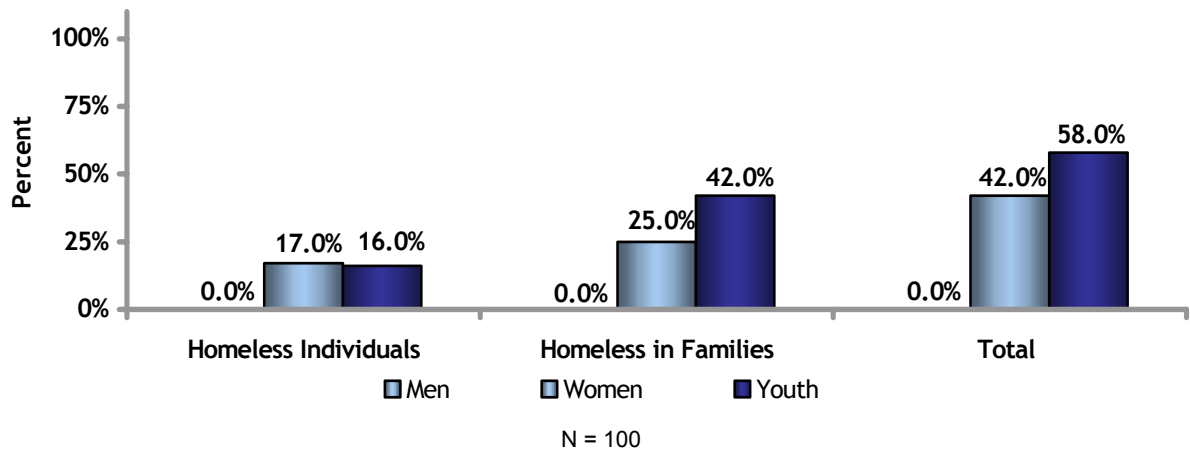
Domestic Violence Shelter Results

A total of 100 persons were counted in domestic violence shelters. There were no adult males identified in these types of facilities. Homeless families accounted for 67% of the total homeless population in domestic violence shelters. Youth in families made up the largest segment of this population, accounting for 42% of all homeless people identified in domestic violence shelters.

Figure 14: Number of Homeless People Occupying Domestic Violence Shelters

AREA	HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS				HOMELESS FAMILIES				TOTAL
	SINGLE MALE	SINGLE FEMALE	SINGLE YOUTH	SUB TOTAL	MALE IN FAMILY	FEMALE IN FAMILY	YOUTH IN FAMILY	SUB TOTAL	
Total	0	17	16	33	0	25	42	67	100

Figure 15: Domestic Violence Shelter Occupancy, by Gender and Individual or Family Status

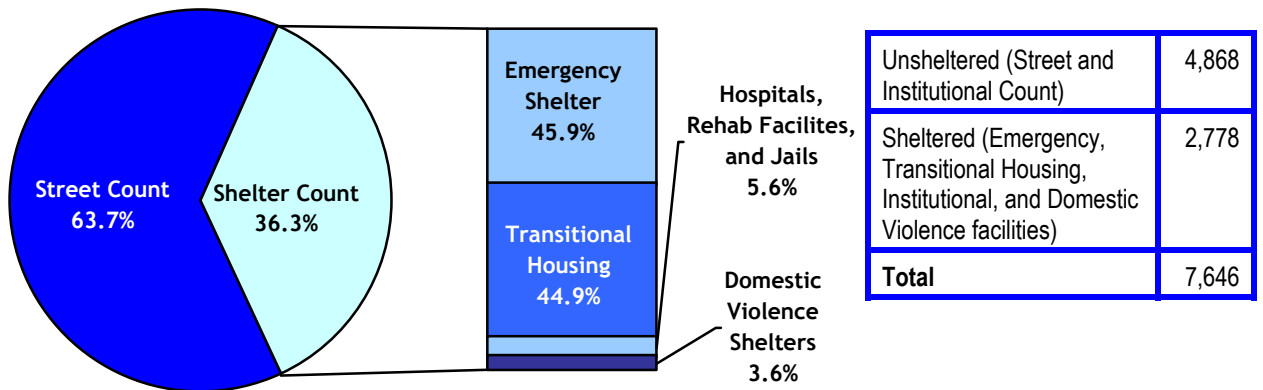


Total of Unsheltered and Sheltered Homeless

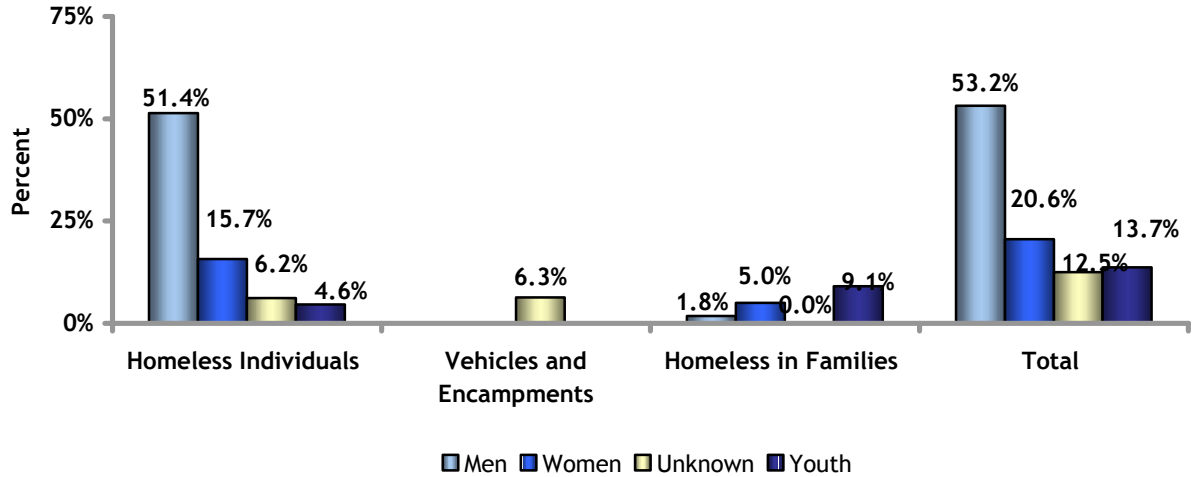
The total number of homeless people found unsheltered and sheltered in Santa Clara County during the census was 7,646. The following tables illustrate the total by setting (unsheltered versus type of shelter) and family status, by street vs. shelter occupancy, and by demographic distribution.

Figure 16: Homeless Census Population Total by Setting and Family Status

SETTING	INDIVIDUALS	PEOPLE IN FAMILIES	TOTAL PEOPLE	PERCENT
Unsheltered	4,628	240	4,868	63.7%
In emergency shelter facilities	1,079	197	1,276	16.7%
In transition housing facilities	537	710	1,247	16.3%
In hospitals, rehab facilities, and jails	155	0	155	2.0%
In domestic violence shelters	33	67	100	1.3%
Totals	6,432	1,214	7,646	-----
% of Totals	84.1%	15.9%	-----	100.0%

Figure 17: Homeless Census Population Grand Total by Street and Shelter

The graph below illustrates the demographic distribution for the homeless people identified during the street and shelter counts.

Figure 18: Demographic Distribution of Homeless Street and Shelter Count Data

N = 7,646

The majority of those counted during the street and shelter census were individuals. There were 5,953 homeless individuals counted in the census, comprising 78% of all homeless people identified. Approximately 16% of those counted, or 1,214 homeless people, belonged to family units. Homeless individuals found in vehicles and encampments (whose gender, age, or familial status could not be determined) comprised an additional 6% of the total count.

Jurisdiction Assignment

The unit of analysis for the homeless enumeration was a U.S. Census Tract. A feature of this approach is that it enables us to use the considerable body of census data for comparisons to the general population. A consequence of this approach is that U.S. Census Tract boundaries do not conform to many Santa Clara County jurisdictional boundaries. In order to assign homeless street count findings to an appropriate jurisdiction, a Geographical Information System (GIS) analysis was performed to deal with this issue.

Once the results from the street count and shelter count were analyzed, it was then necessary to distribute these findings to certain jurisdictions within Santa Clara County. The jurisdiction assignment was performed in an automated fashion using the overlay capabilities of the GIS. The census tracts were combined with census places to create polygons where there was only one tract value and one place value. This means when there was more than one place within a tract, the tract was divided along the place boundaries, creating the polygons mentioned above. The original area of the census tract was then divided by the area of each of the resulting polygons to determine what proportion of the original tract was represented by each new polygon. This “proportion value” was used to divide the number of homeless people counted within the tract during the street count into each tract/place polygon. The polygons for each place were then aggregated to provide the street count.

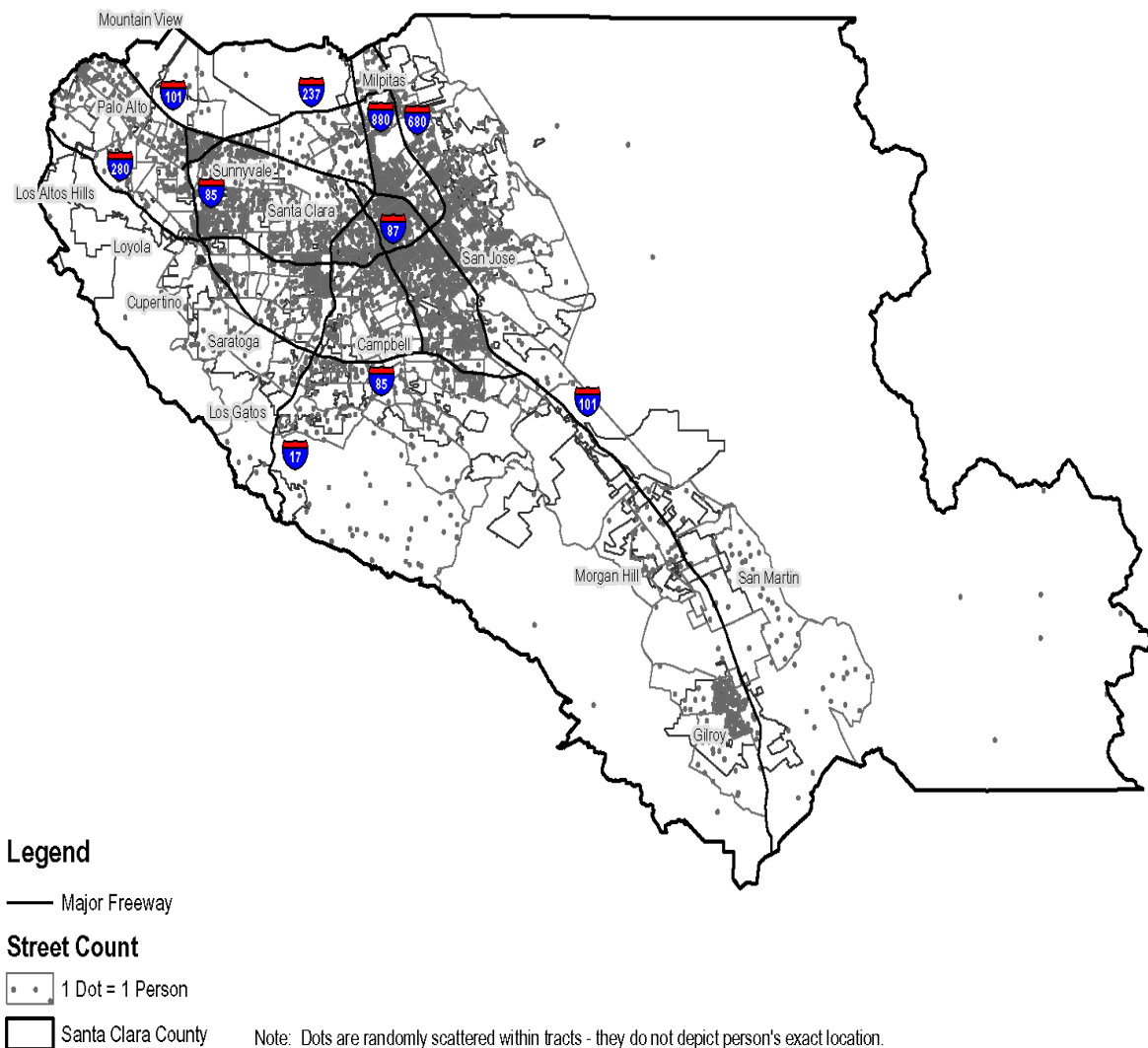
Santa Clara County has many pockets of county land and neighborhoods that are within city “spheres of influence,” but not necessarily within technical city boundaries. These are called Census Designated Places (CDP’s). Examples of CDP’s include Willow Glen, Seven Trees, and Lily Gardens. A more detailed explanation of CDP’s can be found in the appendix.

When a shelter was located within a “place” jurisdiction, the shelter count was added to the derived street count to provide the final count within each jurisdiction. This process was repeated several times, once on all “places” (including cities, towns, and CDP’s), and again only with cities and towns. We have tried to eliminate the CDP’s from our table because of a request from the project committee and their acknowledgment that they, in fact, serve these communities.

Figure 19: Total of Homeless Census Population by City and County

JURISDICTION	UNSHELTERED HOMELESS	SHELTERED HOMELESS	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
City of Campbell	71	0	71	0.9%
City of Cupertino	71	30	101	1.3%
City of Gilroy	171	249	420	5.5%
City of Los Altos	8	0	8	0.1%
Town of Los Altos Hills	15	0	15	0.2%
Town of Los Gatos	41	0	41	0.5%
City of Milpitas	149	3	152	2.0%
City of Monte Sereno	0	0	0	0.0%
City of Morgan Hill	27	9	36	0.5%
City of Mountain View	177	36	213	2.8%
City of Palo Alto	94	247	341	4.5%
City of San Jose	3,101	1,809	4,910	64.2%
City of Santa Clara	159	200	359	4.7%
City of Saratoga	28	0	28	0.4%
City of Sunnyvale	321	99	420	5.5%
Unincorporated areas of Santa Clara County	435	96	531	6.9%
Total	4,868	2,778	7,646	100.0%

Figure 20: Map – 2004 Santa Clara Homeless Census Street Count Distribution



In the diagram above, it should be noted that each dot represents only a homeless person, but not that person's exact location. Since the smallest unit of analysis for the census was a U.S. Census Tract, it was not possible to determine each homeless person's exact location within the tract. The dots on the map above were randomly distributed in each census tract where homeless people were found.

Countywide Annual Estimation

More people experience homelessness annually than can be counted at any given point in time. In any year, people will cycle in and out of homelessness. For example, someone may be homeless between February and May, and another person may become homeless between October and December. Only counting the homeless person found in a December census could under-represent the experience of the homeless person in the February to May timeline. Therefore, we always want to calculate a turnover or annualized rate to accommodate this phenomenon. Based on the Santa Clara County Homeless Survey responses, a turnover rate has been calculated to estimate the number of individuals who experience homelessness annually. The following is an explanation of the turnover rate calculation.

Three factors were used to determine the turnover rate:

- Length of homelessness as reported by survey respondents,
- Percentage of respondents indicating each length of homelessness, and
- The minimum turnover rate for each length category.

The length of homelessness is an important factor in determining the turnover rate. If every homeless person were homeless for an entire year, the turnover rate would be 1.0, and the number of homeless counted in a point-in-time enumeration would equal the number of people experiencing homelessness in that year. If every homeless person were homeless for exactly one month, the turnover rate would be 12, and the number of people experiencing homelessness in a year would be 12 times the number counted in any point-in-time enumeration. The following table illustrates the calculation of a turnover rate based upon the results of the 2004 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

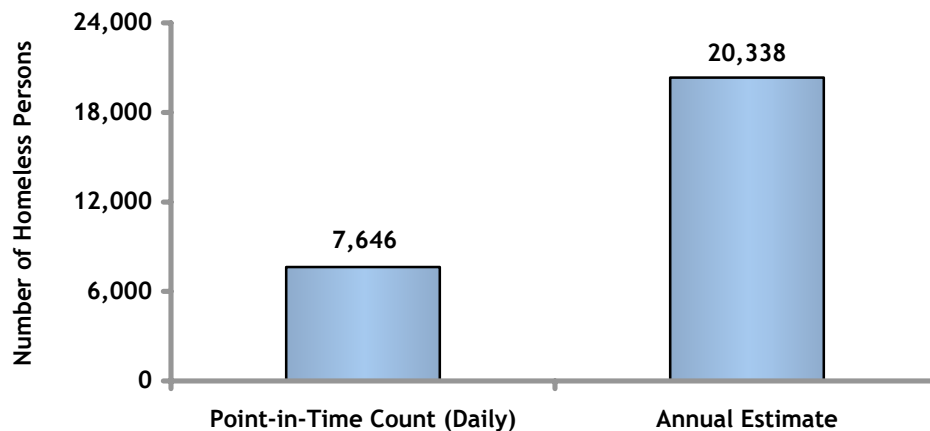
Figure 21: Calculation of Santa Clara County Turnover Rate Based on Survey Results

LENGTH OF HOMELESSNESS	PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS	MINIMUM TURNOVER RATE	AVERAGE TURNOVER RATE
Less than 1 month	9.5%	12	1.14
1-3 months	13.7%	4	0.548
4-6 months	17.8%	2	0.356
7-9 months	8.4%	1.3	0.1092
10-12 months	9.5%	1	0.095
1-2 years	19.3%	1	0.193
More than 2 years	21.8%	1	0.218
Total (n=1,784)	100.0%		Weighted Average = 2.66

Weighted Average is calculated as follows. Turnover rate = $(9.5\% \times 12) + (13.7\% \times 4) + (17.8\% \times 2) + (8.4\% \times 1.3) + (9.5\% \times 1) + (19.3\% \times 1) + (21.3\% \times 1)$.

This approach resulted in **an annual multiplier of 2.66**, indicating that **approximately 20,338 persons (7,646 x 2.66) experienced homelessness in Santa Clara County in 2004**. This turnover rate is very consistent with rates measured in other communities using this point-in-time methodology.⁶ This annual estimate represents 1.2% of the study area's general population. According to a 2002 study done by the National Coalition for the Homeless, approximately 3.5 million people, or about 1% of the U.S. general population, experience homelessness in a given year. Additionally, the California Research Bureau estimates that approximately 361,000 people are homeless in California state at any one time (approximately 1% of the general population), and estimates the number of people who experience homelessness over the course of a year to be between one and two million people, or between 3% and 5% of California's general population.⁷

Figure 22: Point-in-Time and Annual Estimate of Homelessness in Santa Clara County



⁶ San Bernardino County 2003 Homeless Census and Survey, prepared by Applied Survey Research, 2003. Monterey County Homeless Census and Homeless Youth / Foster Teen Study, prepared by Applied Survey Research, 2002. Santa Cruz County Homeless 2000 Census and Needs Assessment, prepared by Applied Survey Research, 2000. The 2003 Metro Atlanta Tri-Jurisdictional Collaborative Homeless Census and Survey. Retrieved February 16, 2005 from: <http://www.appliedsurveyresearch.org>

⁷ Foster, Lisa K. and Snowdon, Patricia. *Addressing Long-Term Homelessness: Permanent Supportive Housing*. California Research Bureau. August 2003.

Survey Methodology

Planning and Implementation

The survey of homeless persons was conducted in order to yield qualitative data about the homeless community which will be used for the SuperNOFA application. Additionally, the qualitative data is important for homeless program development and planning. The survey elicited information such as gender, family status, military service, length and recurrence of homelessness, usual nighttime accommodations, causes of homelessness, and access to services through open-ended, closed-ended, and multiple response questions. The survey questions bring greater perspective to current issues of homelessness and the provision and delivery of services both current and in the future, and also provide a baseline for future homeless studies.

Homeless workers who were trained by Applied Survey Research conducted the surveys. Training sessions led potential interviewers through a detailed and lengthy orientation that included project background information, and detailed instruction on respondent eligibility, interviewing protocol, prompting for detailed response, and confidentiality. Because of confidentiality and privacy issues, surveys conducted in shelters were typically conducted by service providers. No self-administered surveys were accepted for methodological reasons.

Homeless workers were compensated at a rate of \$5.00 per each completed survey. It was determined that survey data would be more easily collected if an incentive gift was offered to survey respondents in appreciation for their time and participation. A \$5 face value pre-paid phone card was selected as an incentive to participate in the survey. These cards were easy to obtain and distribute, were thought to have wide appeal, and could be provided within the project budget.

Survey Sampling

Developing a truly random sample of homeless survey respondents is challenging. An important consideration is that there is not enough information about the population to develop a sampling strategy that effectively represents the target demographics and subpopulations' diversity. Applied Survey Research considered a randomized "every third or fourth encounter" survey approach, but felt that it would be too challenging to administer with our preferred homeless peer interview methodology. Instead ASR selected a convenience sample approach with a significantly large number of respondents (23% of the target population).

Strategic attempts were made to reach individuals of various subset groups such as homeless youth, minority ethnic groups, military veterans, domestic violence victims, and migrant workers. Because random sampling was not employed, the extent to which the

survey respondents compare to, or differ from, the homeless population in general is unknown.

Trained homeless interviewers administered surveys to the “street” homeless. These workers were used as interviewers because they were familiar with the conditions and problems of homeless persons, and it was hoped that they would therefore be more likely to obtain responses to the survey questions from the homeless respondents. Interviewers were asked to inquire if the homeless person had already taken the survey, and if not, if they were willing to do so, knowing there was a “thank you” gift at the completion of the survey. Workers were also asked to remain unbiased at all times, make no assumptions or prompts, and ask all questions but allow respondents to skip any question they did not feel comfortable answering.

Surveys were also administrated in shelters and residential program facilities. Those surveys were conducted by trained program staff. The same survey was used in both shelter and street environments.

Given the number of homeless found on the streets during the census portion of this study, we expected a high number of street homeless to be interviewed. However, many more sheltered homeless, rather than unsheltered homeless, were represented in the survey population. It is believed that many of the sheltered homeless would return to the street once the winter shelter programs close in the early spring, thereby providing responses similar to presently unsheltered homeless. Upon further analysis of the survey results, the responses from sheltered and unsheltered homeless were relatively similar, with a few exceptions. For a detailed comparison of responses given by sheltered and unsheltered homeless, please refer to Appendix IV.

Data Collection

Care was taken by interviewers to ensure that respondents felt comfortable regardless of the street or shelter location. During the interviews, respondents were encouraged to be candid in their responses and were informed that these responses would be framed as general findings, would be kept confidential, and would not be traceable to any one individual.

Overall, the interviewers experienced excellent cooperation from respondents. This was likely influenced by the fact that nearly all of the street interviewers were homeless workers who had previously been fellow members of the homeless community. Another reason for interview cooperation may have been the gift of the pre-paid phone card, which was given to respondents upon the completion of the interview.

Data Analysis

In order to avoid potential duplication of respondents, the survey requested respondents' initials and date of birth, so that duplication could be avoided without compromising the respondents' anonymity. Upon completion of the survey effort, an extensive verification process was conducted to eliminate potential duplicates. This process examined respondents' date of birth, initials, gender, ethnicity, length of homelessness, and consistencies in patterns of responses to other questions on the survey. It was determined that 72 surveys were duplicates. Therefore, of the 1,832 surveys conducted, 36 duplicate surveys were omitted from the results, leaving a total of 1,796 valid surveys.

Survey Challenges and Limitations

The 2004 homeless survey does not include an equal representation of all homeless experiences. However, based on a point-in-time estimate of approximately 7,464 homeless persons, the 1,796 valid surveys represent a confidence interval of +/- 3% when generalizing the results of the survey to the estimated population of homeless individuals.

One of the survey sample issues we experienced was the distribution of the survey. Though our census indicated 65% of the population was unsheltered, 64% of our survey responses were from sheltered persons. This was, in part, due to the distribution by the service provider community.

Due to the busy nature of the December holiday period and their reduced resources, many providers were unable to devote resources to survey work. Notable exceptions were Saint Joseph's Church in downtown San Jose, City Team Ministries, and the Clara-Mateo Alliance, who were huge supporters of the survey effort. The net effect, however, was that the city of San Jose and sheltered respondents (albeit emergency shelters) were over-represented in the survey population.

In an effort to survey homeless persons throughout Santa Clara County, surveys were collected in a non-random manner. The nature of the non-random survey collection tends to over-represent the street and sheltered homeless, resulting in under-representation of a potentially large population of homeless persons and families living in unfit or overcrowded housing. Survey results do, however, go further to inform the community about homelessness in the Santa Clara County.

In any survey research, there is always an opportunity for misrepresentation. Since there is no mechanism to separate truth from fiction in survey responses, it is important to make every effort to elicit the most truthful responses from interviewees. Using a peer interviewing methodology is believed to allow the respondents to be more candid with their answers, and may help reduce the intimidation of revealing personal information. It should be noted that the responses provided for this survey are consistent based on reviews by service providers.

Homeless Survey Findings

The following section provides an overview of the findings generated from the Santa Clara County Homeless Survey. Nearly 1,800 surveys were administered over an eight-week period. Missing values have been intentionally omitted from the survey results, and all survey results display valid percentages only. *Therefore, the total number of respondents for each question will not necessarily equal the total number of surveys.* A copy of the survey instrument, as well as a complete list of survey questions and responses, can be found in Appendices II and III of this report.

Demographics

In order to measure the diversity of homeless residents in Santa Clara County, respondents were asked to answer several demographic questions pertaining to their age, gender, ethnicity, and military service.

Age

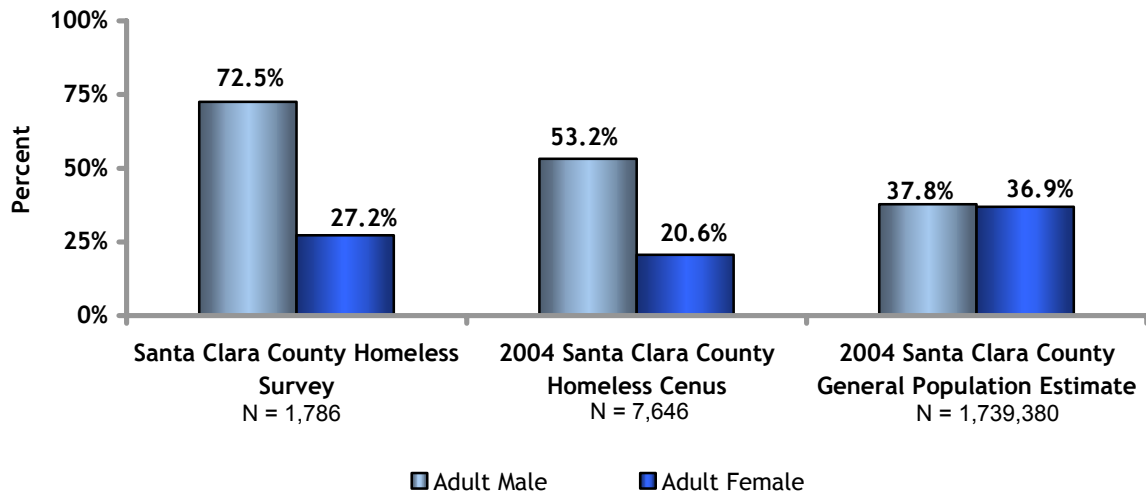
Over 28% of survey respondents were between 41 and 50 years of age, with the second largest age segment being 31-40 years of age (27%). Approximately 18% were between the ages of 51 and 60, and slightly more than 17% were between 22 and 30 years old.

Figure 23: Survey Respondents by Age

AGE	FREQUENCY	% OF TOTAL
Less than 18 years	16	0.9%
18-21 years	96	5.4%
22-30 years	309	17.4%
31-40 years	485	27.3%
41-50 years	501	28.2%
51-60 years	313	17.6%
More than 60 years	59	3.3%
Totals	1,779	100.0%

Gender

Among survey respondents, there were more males than females, accounting for almost three-quarters of the total. The distribution of gender in the study areas is shown in the following figure, along with general population data for Santa Clara County from the State of California Department of Finance.

Figure 24: Gender of Homeless Survey Respondents

Santa Clara County General Population data source: State of California, Department of Finance, Race/Ethnic Population with Age and Sex Detail, 2000-2050.

Note: Five respondents (0.3%) indicated their sex as "Transgender."

Note: The number of males and females for the homeless census includes individual males and females, as well as males and females in families.

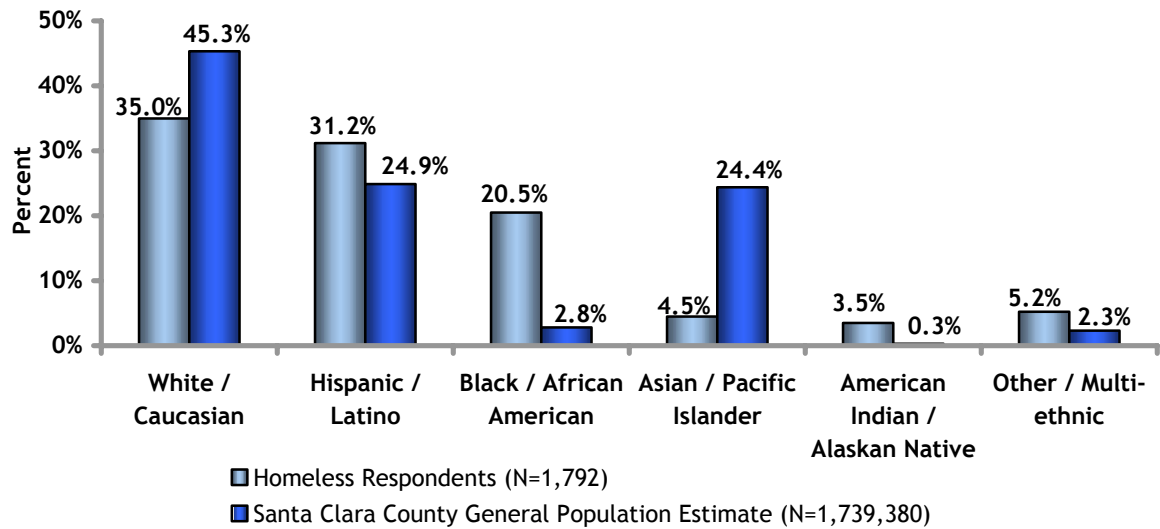
Males were slightly over-represented in the Santa Clara County Survey population compared to the 2004 Department of Finance population estimates for Santa Clara County. Females were under-represented in the survey population as compared to the County's general population estimate.

In comparison to the homeless census results, males were still over-represented in the survey population, while females were slightly over-represented.

Ethnicity

Demographically, the number of homeless survey respondents who identified their racial/ethnic group as Caucasian or Hispanic/Latino was nearly similar (35% and 31%, respectively). Approximately 21% reported they were African American, 5% were Asian or Pacific Islander, 4% identified themselves as American Indian or Alaskan Native, and an additional 5% said they belonged to other or multiple racial or ethnic groups.

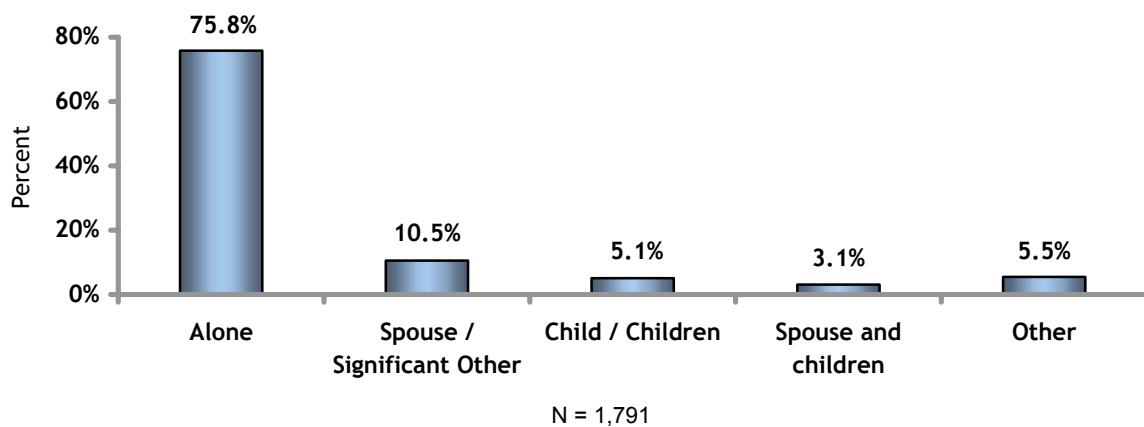
When compared to the 2004 Santa Clara County population estimates, Caucasians and Asians/Pacific Islanders were under-represented in the survey population. Hispanics/Latinos, African Americans, American Indians/Alaskan Natives, and other or multi-ethnic people were over-represented in the survey population. The largest over-representation occurred within the African American ethnic group.

Figure 25: Which racial / ethnic group do you identify with?

Santa Clara County General Population data source: State of California, Department of Finance, Race/Ethnic Population with Age and Sex Detail, 2000-2050.

Family Status

Most respondents (76%) indicated they were living alone at the time of the survey. However, 11% were living with their spouse or significant other, 5% were living with their child or children, and an additional 3% were living with their spouse or significant other *and* children. Five and one-half percent of respondents indicated that they are living with “other” people. For this survey, the term “other” refers to people not in the respondent’s immediate family.

Figure 26: Who do you currently live with?

Among respondents who indicated that they were currently living with children under the age of 18, 186 respondents reported having 371 children.

Figure 27: Estimate of Number of Reported Children

# OF CHILDREN	# OF RESPONDENTS	TOTAL CHILDREN REPORTED
1	84	84
2	54	108
3	25	75
4	15	60
5	5	25
6	2	12
7	1	7
Totals	186	371

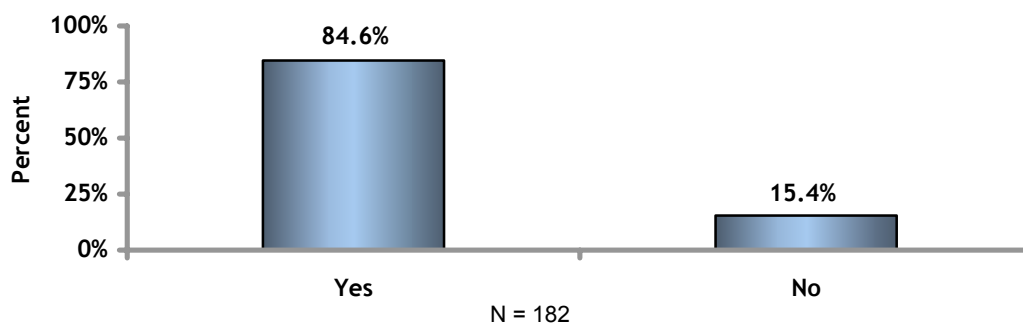
Total children reported was calculated by multiplying the number of respondents by the number of children they reported (e.g. 54 respondents x 2 children each = 108 children).

Child Welfare

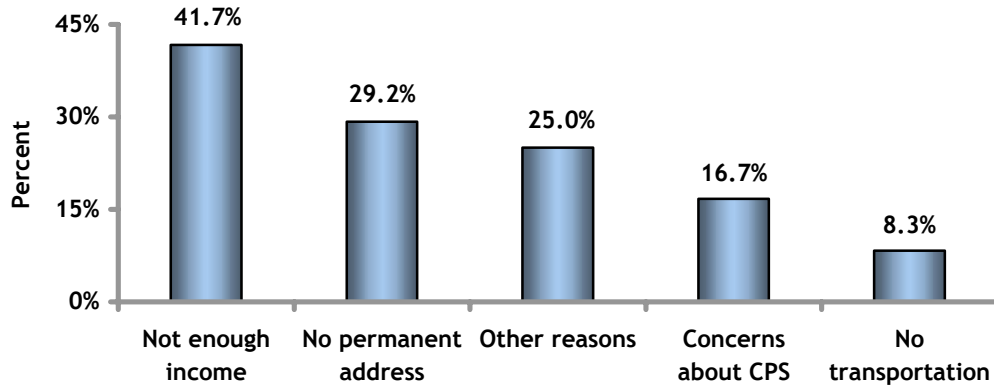
Nutrition

When respondents who reported having children living with them were asked if their children get enough to eat, nearly 85% responded affirmatively. However, just over 15% of respondents indicated their children do not get enough to eat on a daily basis.

Figure 28: If you have children living with you, do they usually get enough food to eat?



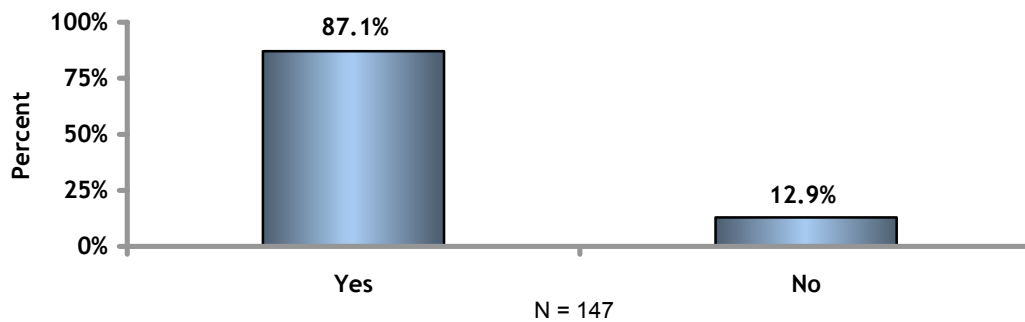
Approximately 42% of the respondents who stated their children do not get enough food to eat cited a lack of income as the cause. Additionally, over 29% indicated a lack of a permanent address was preventing them from getting food, while almost 17% said they had concerns about Child Protective Services. Approximately 8% said they had no transportation, while one in four respondents cited “Other reasons” for their children not getting enough to eat.

Figure 29: Why don't your children get enough to eat? (Top 5 responses)

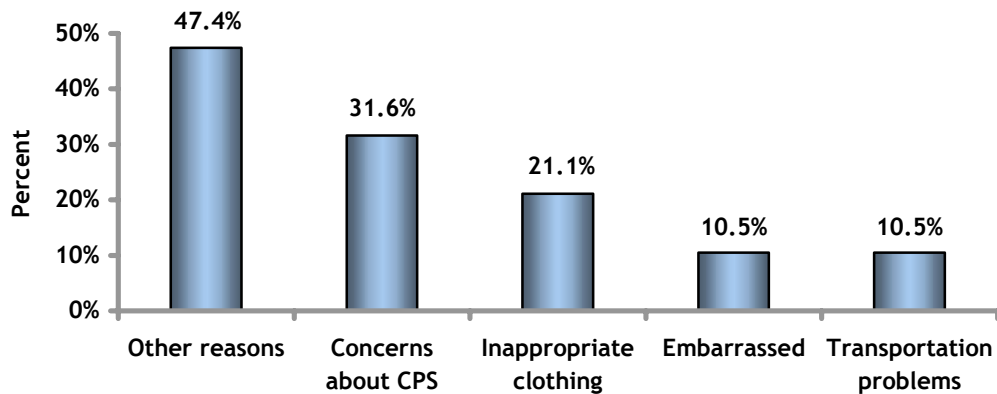
Multiple response question with 24 respondents offering 32 responses.

Education

When respondents with children were asked if their children were in school (if the children were old enough), just over 81% indicated their children were in school. Nearly 13% stated their children were not attending school.

Figure 30: If your children are old enough, are they in school?

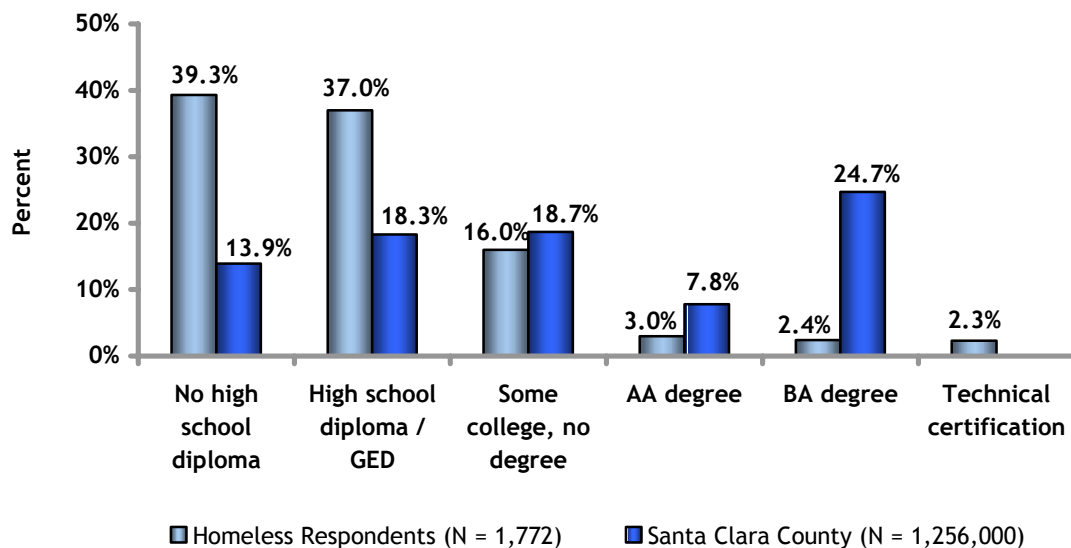
Of those who said their children were not in school, nearly 32% said their concerns about Child Protective Services prevented them from sending their children to school. Just over 21% indicated their children lacked the appropriate clothing to attend school, while embarrassment or transportation problems were each identified as reasons by 11% of respondents with children. "Other reasons" was identified as the top reason for not sending their children to school (47%).

Figure 31: Why aren't your children attending school?

Multiple response question with 19 respondents offering 24 responses.

Educational Attainment

Approximately 40% of survey respondents indicated they do not have a high school degree or GED. Further, 37% of respondents have a high school education or equivalent. Only 16% of those interviewed have some college education, while just over 5% have an Associate's or Bachelor's degree. An additional 2% had received a technical certification.

Figure 32: What is the highest level of education you have completed?

Santa Clara County data source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2003 American Community Survey Summary Tables, Table PCT033, 2005.

Note: Santa Clara County data not available for "Technical Certification."

Note: Not all responses are shown for Santa Clara County, so percentages will not total 100%.

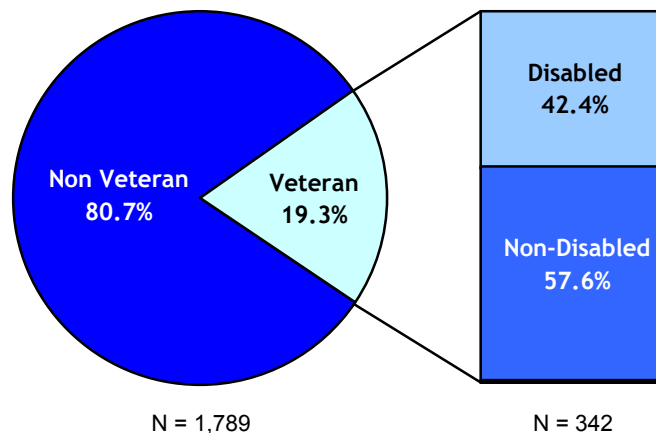
A 1999 study conducted by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development showed similar results in regards to educational attainment. Approximately 38% of the homeless population had not completed high school, while 34% had received their high school diploma or GED.⁸

In comparison to the general population of Santa Clara County, the homeless population was more than twice as likely to not have completed a high school education. Overall, the homeless population has completed less education than the general population of Santa Clara County.

Military Service

Most homeless respondents (81%) had never served in the military. However, nearly one in five respondents (19%) indicated that they were veterans. Of those who responded as military veterans, 42% considered themselves to be disabled.

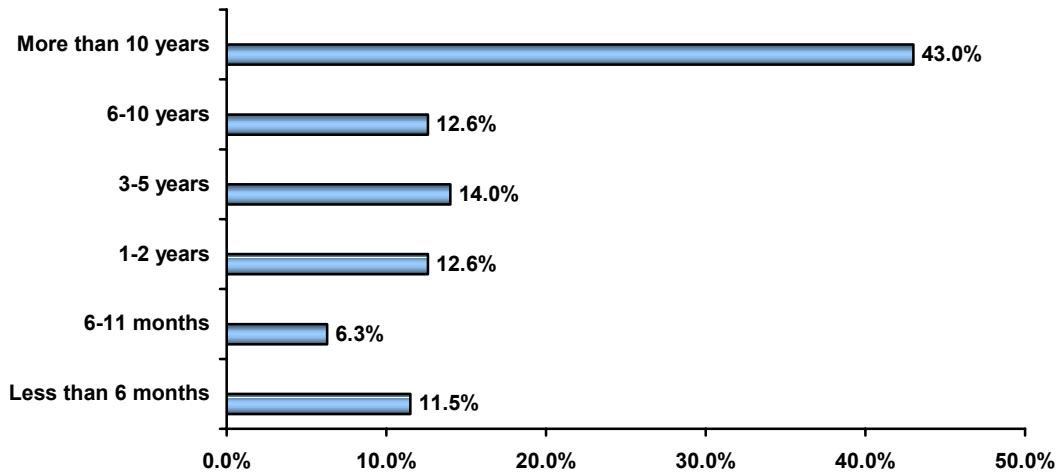
Figure 33: Survey Respondents by Military Service and Disabled Status



Santa Clara County Residency

Slightly less than half (43%) of survey respondents indicated they had been living in Santa Clara County for 10 years or more. Fourteen percent (14%) had been living in the County for 3-5 years, and nearly 18% had spent less than 12 months in Santa Clara County. This response indicates that homelessness is very much a local issue and the result of the homeless being attracted to local services.

⁸ Homelessness: Programs and the People They Serve, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 1999.

Figure 34: How long have you lived in Santa Clara County?

N = 1,779

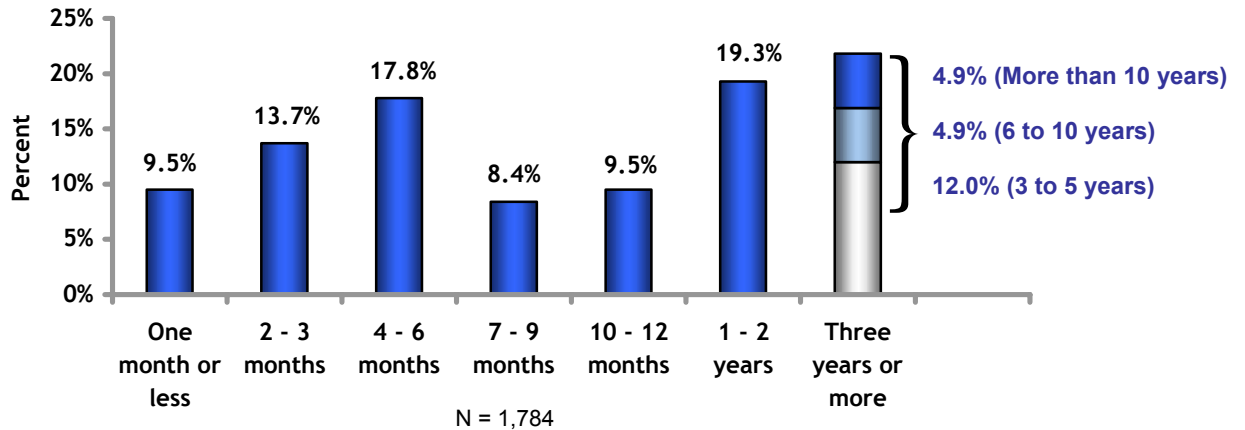
Characteristics of Homelessness

Characteristics of homelessness varies greatly among respondents. While many respondents were experiencing homelessness for the first time, or had been homeless for just a few months, others had been homeless repeatedly.

Length of Homelessness

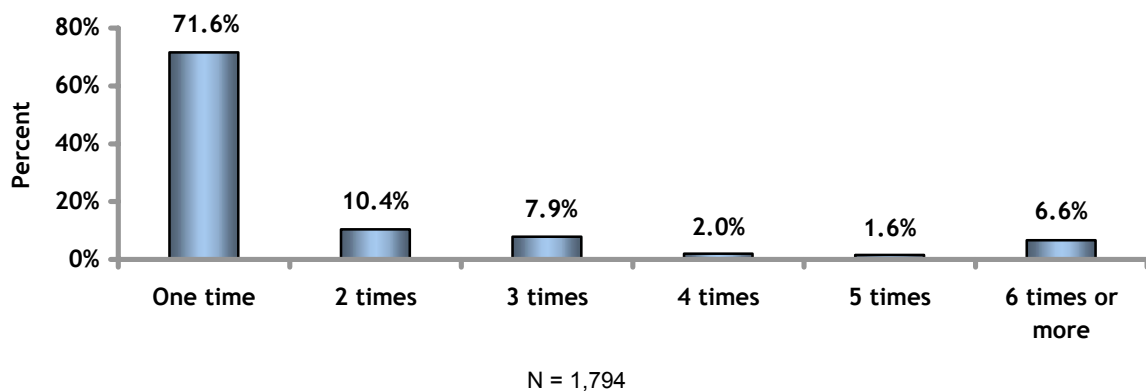
Many respondents (nearly 59%) had been homeless one year or less, with the largest group of respondents indicating that they had been homeless for one month or less (10%). This percentage is slightly higher than national estimates, which indicate that 54% of the homeless population had been homeless for less than one year ⁹. Approximately 19% of survey respondents had been homeless for one to two years, and just under 22% had been homeless for three years or longer (as compared to 30% nationwide), including 175 respondents (10%) who had been homeless for more than 5 years.

⁹ *Homelessness: Programs and the People They Serve*, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 1999.

Figure 35: How long have you been homeless since your last permanent housing?

Recurrence of Homelessness

When asked how many times they had been homeless in the past 12 months, approximately 72% of respondents indicated that they had been homeless only once (their current period of homelessness). Some respondents indicated that this was their second (10%) or third (8%) episode of homelessness in the past twelve months, and an additional 10.2% had been homeless four or more times in the past year. For the purposes of this study, an “episode” of homelessness is defined as the period of time between losing permanent housing and re-securing permanent housing.

Figure 36: In the last 12 months, how many times have you been homeless (including this last time)?

The Chronically Homeless

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development defines chronic homelessness as:

An unaccompanied individual with a disabling condition who has been:

- 1. Continually homeless for one year or more, or*
- 2. Has experienced four or more episodes of homelessness within the past 3 years.*

For the purposes of this study, a “disabling condition” can be defined as a physical or mental disability, as well as alcohol or drug addiction. Of the 1,796 homeless persons interviewed, approximately 35% (623 respondents) can be considered chronically homeless using the above criteria. For a more detailed profile of the chronically homeless, please refer to Appendix IV.

Projecting the survey findings of 35% of our respondents being defined as chronically homeless, it is estimated that on a given night Santa Clara County has a chronic homeless population of approximately 2,676. This figure is high in comparison to a common estimate that the chronically homeless represent 10% of the homeless population.¹⁰ However, a recent study in Pasadena, CA reported approximately 50% of their homeless population to be defined as chronically homeless,¹¹ and a similar study in Portland, OR estimates 40% of their homeless population as chronically homeless.¹²

Our survey also reported that over 76% of homeless survey respondents had a disabling condition, which is a primary condition for determining chronic homelessness. Due to a shortening of our survey instrument, however, we failed to accurately measure the multi-episodic homeless: those who had been homeless four or more times over the past three years. As a result, the true number of chronically homeless could be even greater than the 35% reported. For example, 4.1% of respondents were disabled and had three episodes of homelessness in the past 12 months, and therefore would only need one more episode of homelessness in the previous two years to be defined as chronically homeless. Additionally, we calculated 3.7% of respondents were disabled, but missed being defined as chronically homeless by one month or less of consecutive homelessness.

¹⁰ NACo Resolution Supporting Administration's Ten-Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness. Milwaukee, WI. July 15, 2003.

¹¹ Institute for Urban Research and Development. *The City of Pasadena 2005 Homeless Count: Final Report*. March 3, 2005.

¹² City of Portland, Oregon. *Plan to End Homelessness Unveiled*. December 20, 2004.

Usual Nighttime Accommodations

Homeless respondents were living in a wide variety of locations. Most commonly, respondents were living in a shelter or temporary housing (37%), including short-term housing assistance, transitional housing, and domestic violence shelters. However, 22% of respondents were living outdoors or on the street, and nearly 14% were living with their family or friends. Some respondents were living in a hotel or motel room (5%) or in a car or other vehicle (9%).

Figure 37: Which of the following best describes your current primary living situation?

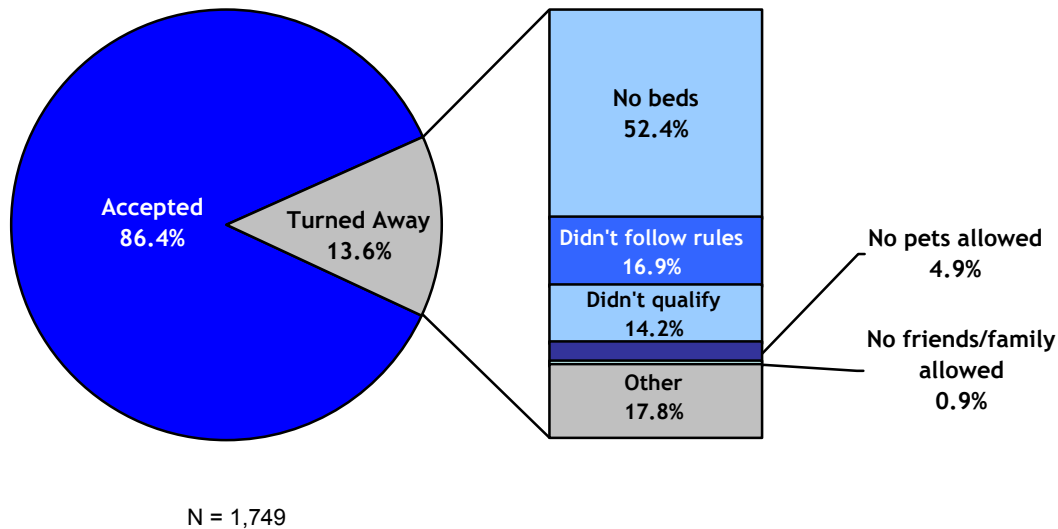
RESPONSE	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
Shelter or temporary housing	647	37.4%
Outdoors / on the street	385	22.3%
Staying with friends / family	240	13.9%
Automobile / Van / Camper	147	8.5%
Hotel / Motel room	83	4.8%
Converted garage	41	2.4%
Place in a house not normally used for sleeping	41	2.4%
Abandoned building	40	2.3%
Backyard Storage Structure	20	1.2%
Mental Health Facility	15	0.9%
Other	69	4.0%

N = 1,728

Access to Shelters

Almost 14% of respondents stated they had tried to access a shelter or transitional housing facility within Santa Clara County, in the 30 days prior to the survey, but had been turned away. Of those who were turned away, a lack of available beds was cited as the number one reason for being denied admittance to the shelter (52%), followed by not following the shelter rules (17%), and not qualifying for the shelter (14%).

Figure 38: Turned away from a Santa Clara County shelter or transitional housing facility in past 30 days and reasons for being turned away.



"Reasons for being turned away" is a multiple response question with 225 respondents offering 241 responses.

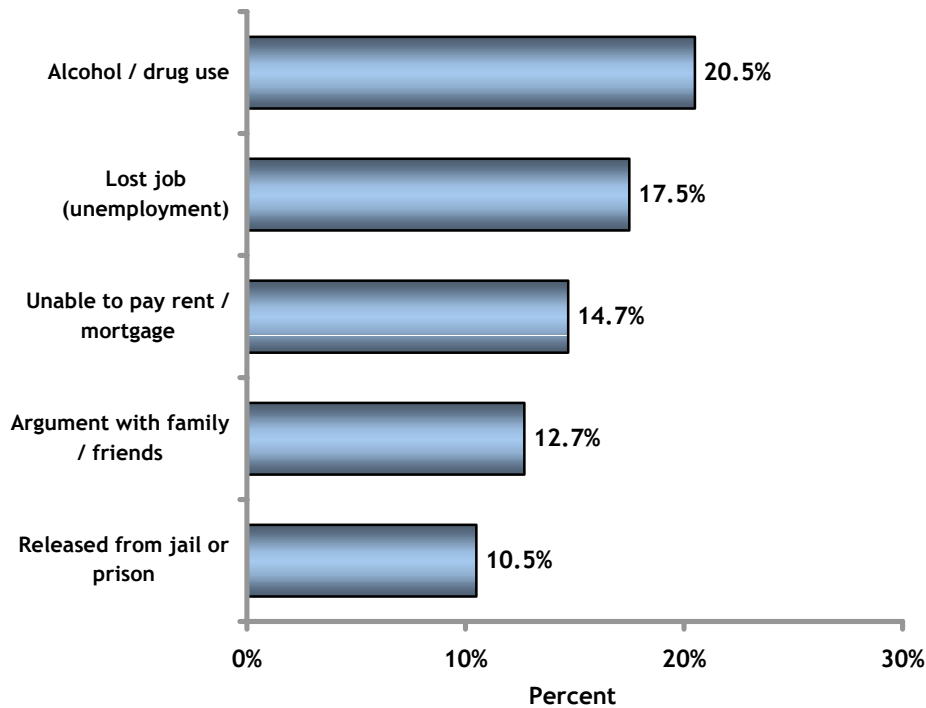
Reasons for Homelessness

In addition to understanding the characteristics of the homeless population, it is important to understand the causes of homelessness. This is an important distinction because of the obvious interrelationships of many of these issues. Homeless survey respondents self-reported a number of reasons for their condition.

Primary Causes

Survey respondents were asked to determine what they thought was the primary event or condition that led to their homelessness. The number one answer, provided by almost 21% of respondents, was alcohol or drug use. Other leading responses included unemployment (18%) and inability to pay the rent or mortgage (15%). Some respondents indicated that their homelessness had been caused by an argument with family or friends (13%), or that they were recently released from jail or prison (11%).

Figure 39: What do you think is the primary event or condition that led to your homelessness? (Top 5 responses)

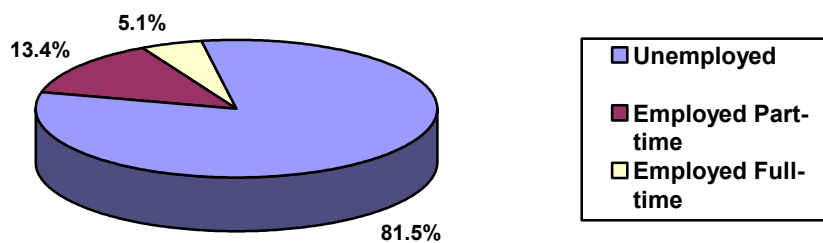


N = 1,580

Employment Status

Unemployment was cited as the second most common cause of homelessness, contributing to the homelessness of almost 18% of respondents. Therefore, it is not surprising that reported levels of employment among respondents were low. A large majority of respondents (82%) indicated that they were not currently employed at the time of the survey. Slightly more than 18% were employed either full- or part-time (5% and 13%, respectively).

Figure 40: Employment Status

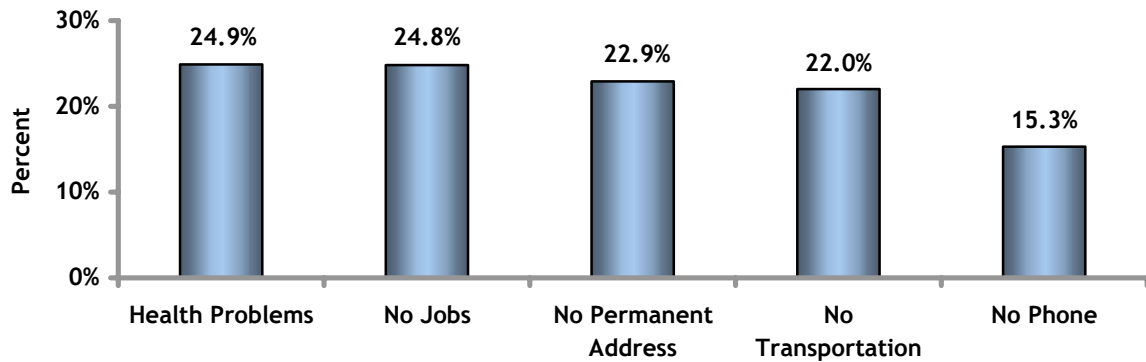


N = 1,794

Causes of Unemployment

Of those unemployed, the two leading causes of unemployment were health problems (25%), and a lack of job opportunities (25%). Many respondents cited the lack of a permanent address or transportation (23% and 22%, respectively) as a reason for unemployment, while 15% said the lack of a telephone was preventing them from securing employment.

Figure 41: Why aren't you employed? (Top 5 responses)



Multiple response question with 1,445 respondents offering 2,814 responses.

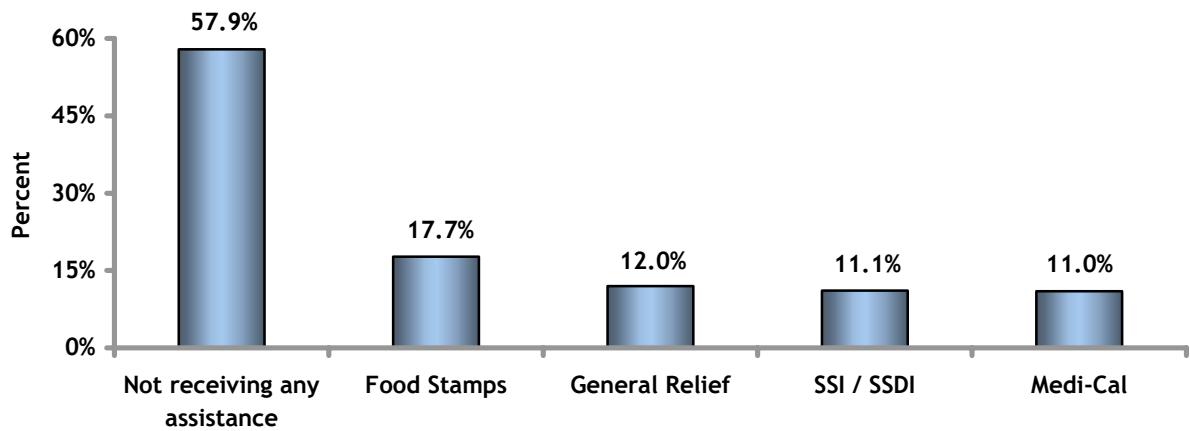
Accessing of Government Assistance and Homeless Programs

Government assistance and homeless programs work to enable the homeless community to obtain income and services, which helps them to start living independently. Many homeless people do not apply for these programs, or do not feel they qualify for aid.

Government Assistance

Survey respondents were asked if they were receiving any type of government assistance at the time of the survey. Government programs include Food Stamps, Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI), General Relief, Medi-Cal, Veteran's benefits, and Cash Aid (TANF, Welfare, and CalWORKS). In Santa Clara County, only 18% of respondents reported receiving Food Stamps, while 12% are receiving General Relief and 11% receive SSI or SSDI. Eleven percent indicated they are receiving Medi-Cal benefits. Approximately 58% of respondents stated they are not receiving any type of government assistance.

Figure 42: Are you currently receiving any of the following forms of government assistance? (Top 5 responses)

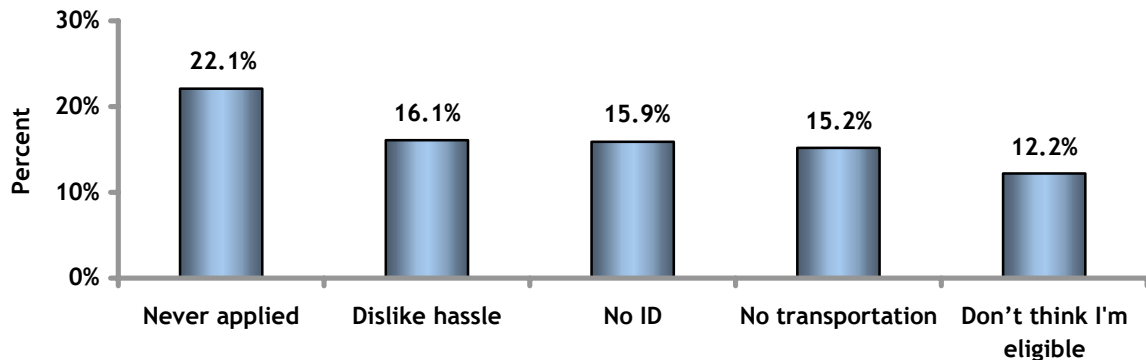


Multiple response question with 1,758 respondents offering 2,128 responses.

Reasons for Not Receiving Government Assistance

When respondents who were not receiving any type of government assistance were asked why they were not receiving aid, over one-fifth responded they never applied for any assistance. Many respondents said they disliked the hassle (16%), or they had no identification or transportation (16% and 15%, respectively). Additionally, 12% felt that they were not eligible for any government programs. It is important to remember that those not staying in shelters are probably less informed about the availability and eligibility requirements of social services.

Figure 43: If you are not receiving any government assistance, why not? (Top 5 responses)

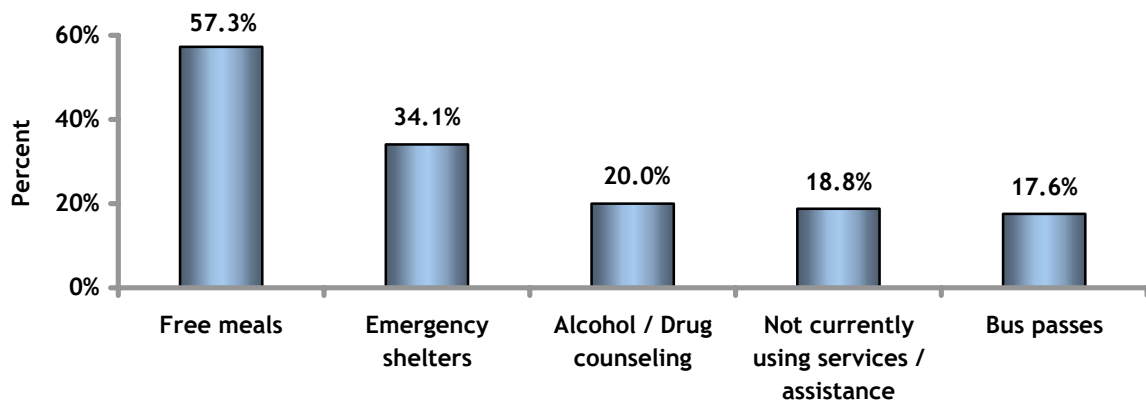


Multiple response question with 1,126 respondents offering 1,612 responses.

Homeless Services and Programs

Homeless survey respondents were asked if they were receiving or participating in any types of homeless services or programs. Such services include free meals, emergency shelters, bus passes, job training, day shelter services, legal assistance, and alcohol and drug counseling. A majority of respondents indicated they receive free meals (57%). Over one-third use emergency shelters (34%), and almost 18% receive bus passes. Approximately 20% of respondents are receiving alcohol and/or drug counseling. Nearly 19% indicated they are not receiving or participating in any type of services or programs.

Figure 44: Are you currently receiving any other services or assistance? (Top 5 responses)

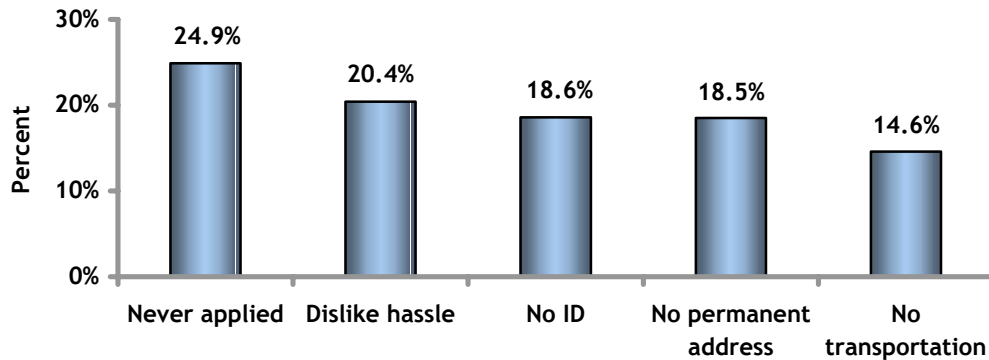


Multiple response question with 1,753 respondents offering 3,101 responses.

Reasons for Not Receiving Services or Assistance

When respondents who were not receiving homeless services or assistance were asked why they were not receiving aid, the responses were almost identical to those who were not receiving government assistance. Almost one-quarter (25%) stated they had not applied for any assistance, while an additional 20% stated they disliked the hassle of applying for assistance. Nearly 19% of respondents cited a lack of identification as a reason for not accessing services, while another 19% identified a lack of a permanent address. Slightly less than 15% indicated having no transportation prevented them from receiving services.

Figure 45: If you are not receiving any other services or assistance, why not? (Top 5 responses)



Multiple response question with 714 respondents offering 1,039 responses.

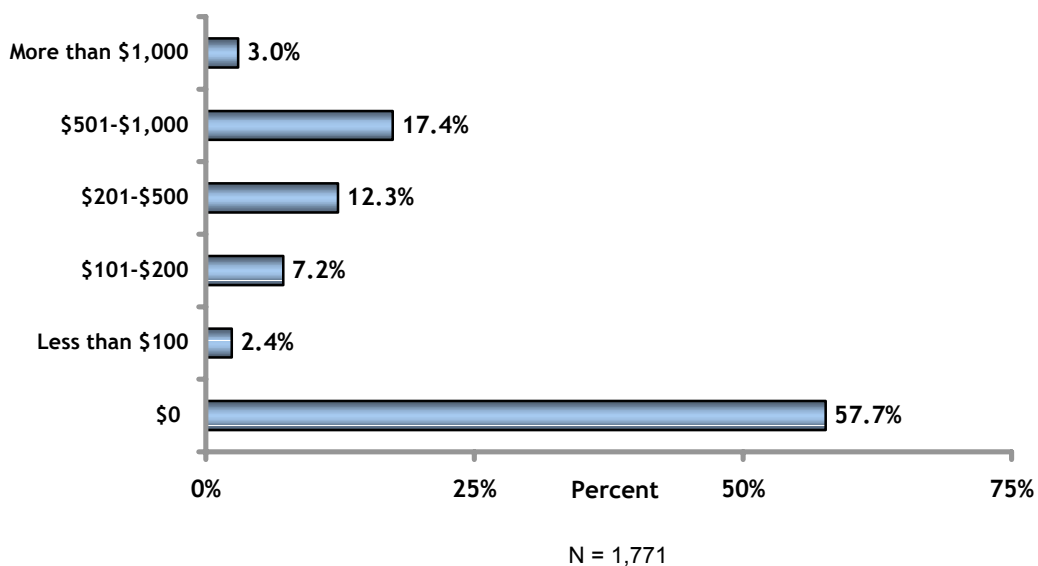
Sources of Income

While some respondents were able to earn income from employment, many respondents were receiving income from sources such as public assistance, disability, or panhandling.

Income from Government Sources

The majority of respondents (58%) indicated that they are receiving no money from government sources. Only 20% of respondents received over \$500 per month from government sources, including 3% receiving over \$1,000 per month.

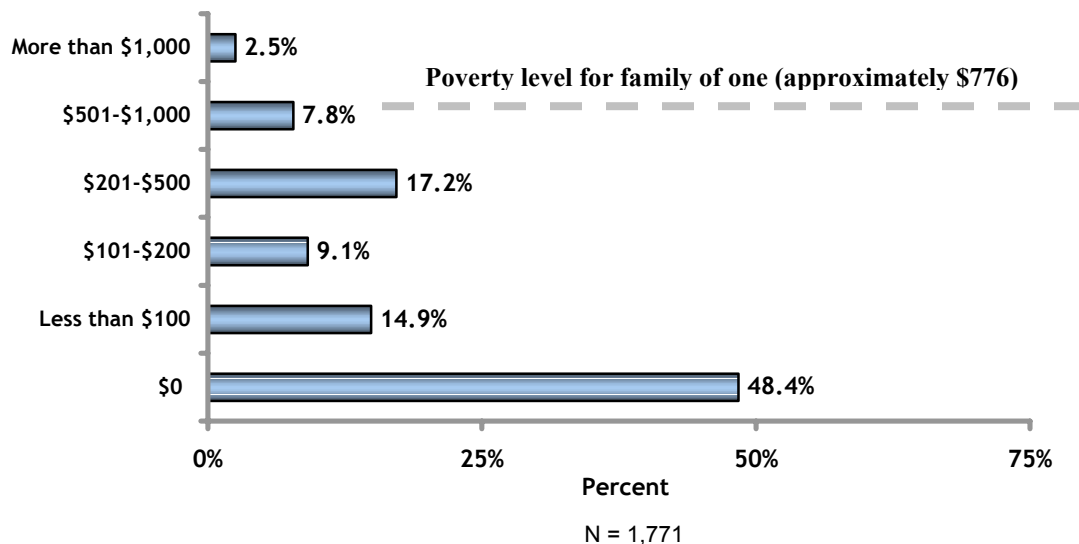
Figure 46: What is your gross monthly income from all government sources?



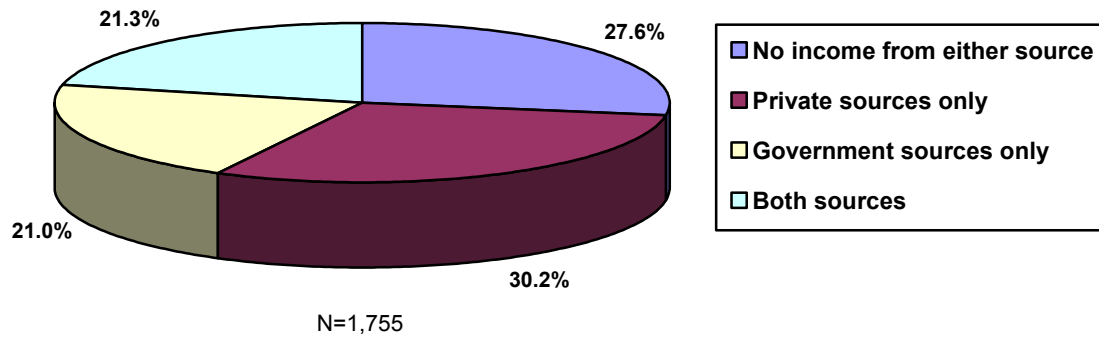
Income from Private Sources

In addition to income from government sources, some respondents were receiving income from other sources including employment or panhandling. Respondents were asked how much money they had received in the past month from all sources other than government assistance. Almost half of the respondents (48%) were receiving no income from other sources. However, just under 15% had received between \$1 to \$100 dollars, while only 10% had received more than \$500 from other sources in the last month, including 3% receiving more than \$1,000 per month.

Figure 47: What is your gross monthly income from all other sources?



Slightly more than 21% of respondents are receiving income from both government and private sources. An additional 21% are receiving income solely from government sources. Just over 30% are receiving income only from private sources, while approximately 28% of respondents are receiving no income from either government or private sources.

Figure 48: Percentage of respondents by types of income

Overall, at least 94% of homeless respondents had earned less (excluding income from government sources) than the 2004 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Federal Poverty Level for a family of one (approximately \$776 per month). It should be noted that the cost of living in Santa Clara County is higher than almost anywhere else in the country, and the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) figures are not a meaningful indicator of whether a family can afford to live here. The local self-sufficiency standard is a more realistic measure of the true cost of living. The self-sufficiency standard is a measure of income adequacy that calculates how much income working adults need to meet their families basic needs without subsidies.¹³ While the FPL for a family of one is approximately \$776 per month, the self-sufficiency standard for a one-person family in Santa Clara County is \$2,718 per month.¹⁴

Alcohol and Drug Addiction

Substance abuse (alcohol or drugs) was cited as the primary cause of homelessness of the homeless survey population in Santa Clara County. Furthermore, many of the homeless respondents said they had experienced alcohol or drug addiction.

Alcoholism

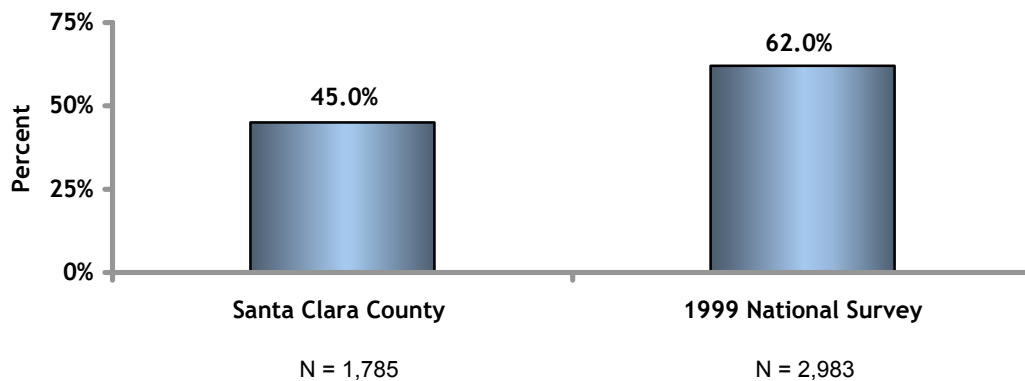
Just under half of homeless respondents (45%) indicated they have experienced alcoholism during their lifetime. Nationally, 62% of the homeless population has experienced alcohol problems during their lifetime.¹⁵

¹³ Pearce, Diana. Peacework Magazine. *Self-Sufficiency Standard: A New Tool for Evaluating Anti-Poverty Policy*. September 2001.

¹⁴ Pearce, Diana and Brooks, Jennifer. *The Self-Sufficiency Standard for California 2003*. p. 70.

¹⁵ Homelessness: Programs and the People They Serve. Department of Housing and Urban Development, 1999.

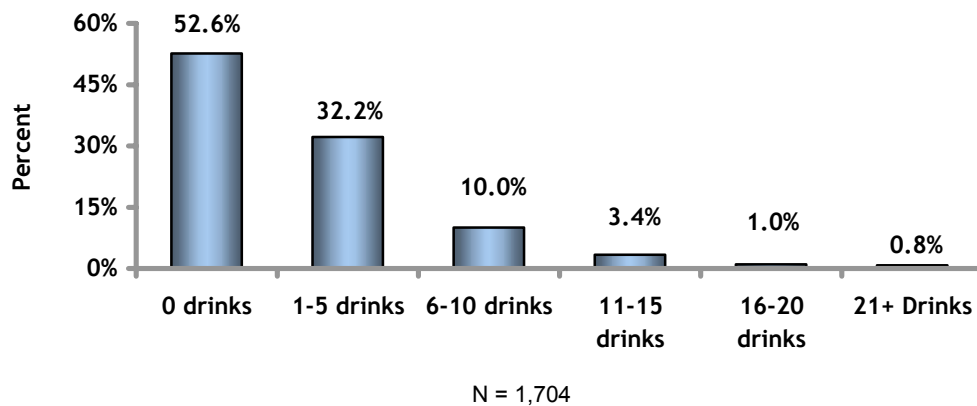
Figure 49: Percentage of respondents who indicated they had ever experienced alcoholism.



Alcohol Consumption

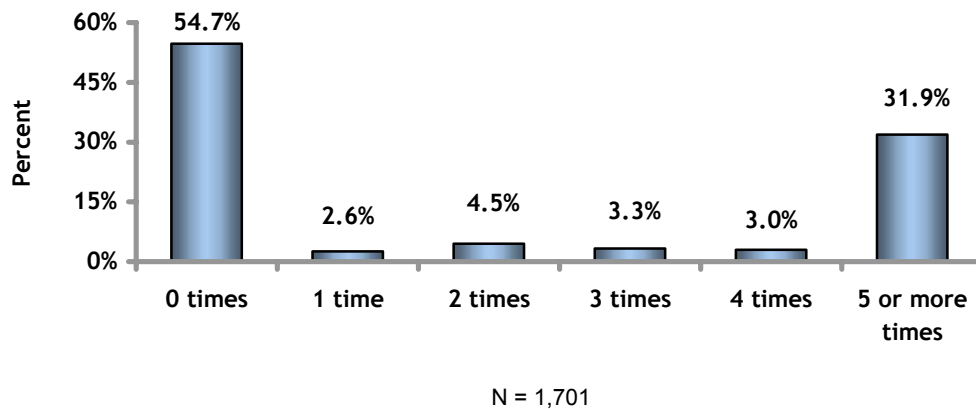
Of those who drink alcoholic beverages, respondents were asked how many drinks they averaged per day. Over half of survey respondents said they averaged zero drinks per day. Additionally, 32% indicated they had 1-5 drinks per day, while another 10% had between 6-10 drinks per day. Over 5% indicated they had more than 10 drinks per day.

Figure 50: If you drink alcoholic beverages, how many drinks do you drink on the average per day?



Forty-five percent of survey respondents drank five or more drinks on at least one occasion during the past 30 days. However, nearly 55% said they did not drink five or more drinks on one occasion in the past 30 days.

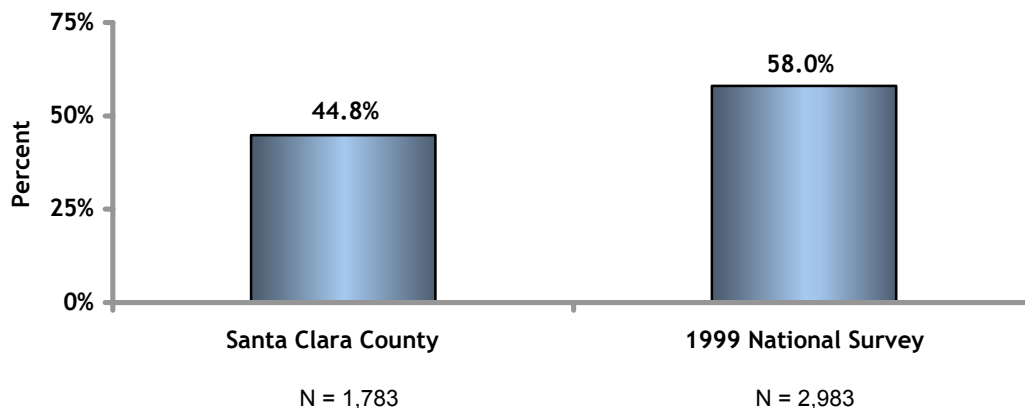
Figure 51: Considering all types of alcoholic beverages, how many times during the past 30 days did you have 5 or more drinks on one occasion?



Drug Addiction

Almost identical to alcoholism, 45% of survey respondents stated they had experienced drug addiction at some point during their lifetime. In the national survey conducted by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in 1999, 58% of the homeless population had drug problems during their lifetime.

Figure 52: Percentage of respondents who indicated they had ever experienced drug addiction.



Recovery

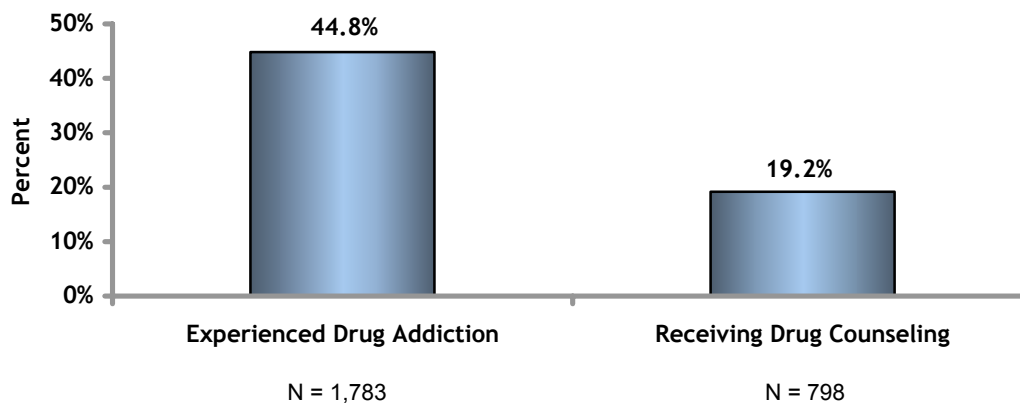
Forty-five percent of survey respondents indicated they had experienced alcoholism. Of those respondents, 20% are currently receiving alcohol counseling.

Figure 53: Percentage of respondents who have experienced alcoholism and are currently receiving alcohol counseling.



Approximately 45% of survey respondents stated they had experienced drug addiction during their lifetime. Of those people, just under 20% are currently receiving drug counseling.

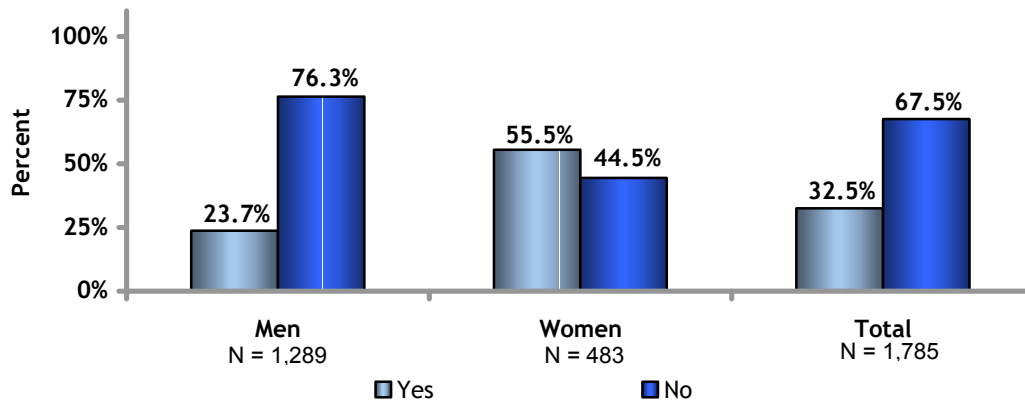
Figure 54: Percentage of respondents who have experienced drug addiction and are currently receiving drug counseling.



Domestic Violence

Homeless survey respondents were asked if they had ever experienced domestic violence. Nearly one in three respondents indicated they had experienced domestic violence during their lifetime. Over 55% of female respondents stated they had experienced domestic violence, while almost 24% of males indicated experiencing domestic violence. National statistics show that nearly one out of every three adult women experience at least one physical assault by a partner during adulthood.¹⁶

¹⁶ American Psychological Association, Violence and the Family: Report of the American Psychological Association Presidential Task Force on Violence and the Family (1996), p. 10.

Figure 55: Have you ever experienced domestic violence? (By gender)

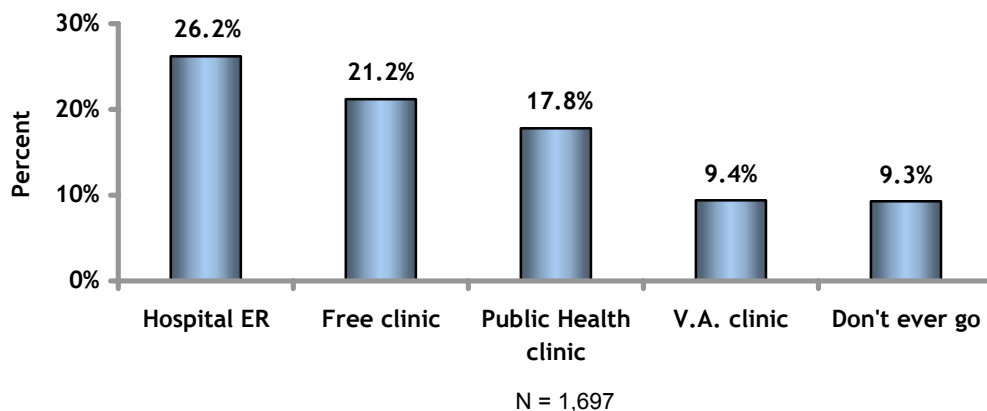
Note: Three out of five transgender respondents reported experiencing domestic violence.

Medical Care and Health Conditions

Access to health care is vital to general well being. While many Santa Clara County residents struggle with the high costs of healthcare, homeless residents are particularly vulnerable to many unique challenges regarding their health and well being.

Access to Medical Care

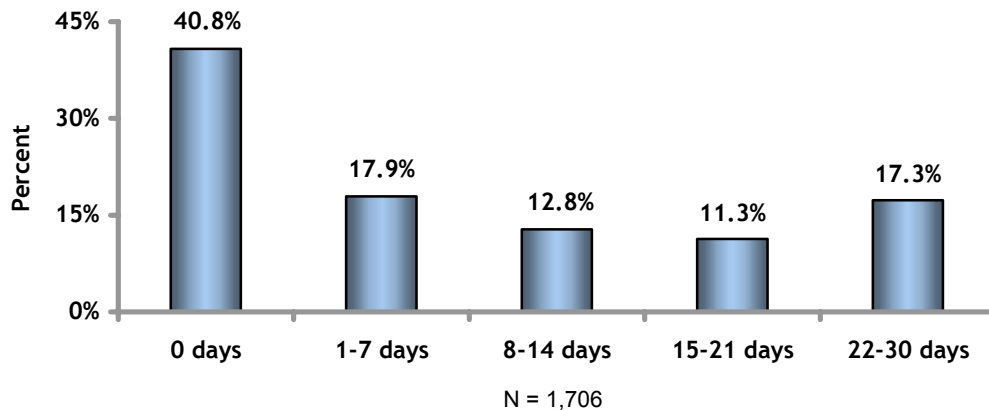
Respondents were asked where they usually go when they need medical attention. Respondents most commonly reported going to a hospital emergency room (26%). Many homeless respondents accessed a free clinic not in a hospital (21%), or a public health clinic (18%). Approximately 9% indicated they received medical attention at a Veteran's Administration clinic, while a total of 158 respondents, representing 9% of the survey sample, indicated that they did not go anywhere to receive medical help.

Figure 56: Where do you usually go to get medical attention? (Top 5 responses)

Mental Health

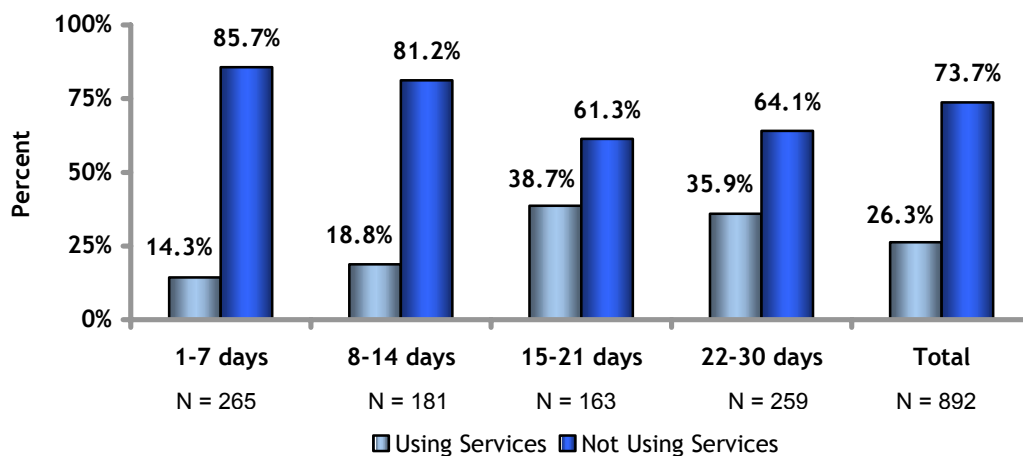
It is commonly believed that many homeless residents experience poor mental health (such as depression) during their lifetime. Just fewer than 60% of survey respondents reported poor mental health in the 30 days prior to the survey. Approximately 18% stated their mental health was not good for one to seven days in the past month, and just over 17% indicated they experienced poor mental health for 22-30 days.

Figure 57: For how many days during the past 30 days was your mental health not good?



Of those respondents who indicated their mental health was not good for between 22 and 30 days, nearly 36% were receiving mental health services at the time of the survey. Approximately 26% of respondents who stated their mental health was not good for *one day or more* were receiving mental health services at the time of the survey.

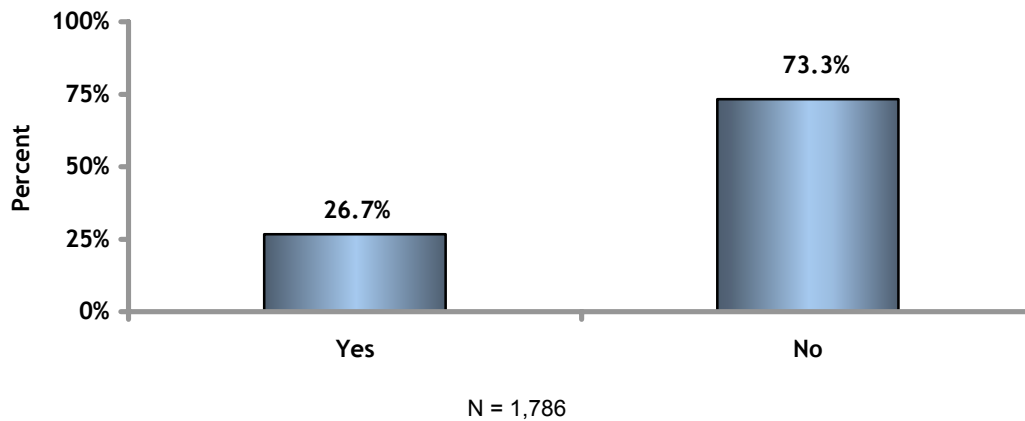
Figure 58: Using mental health services if mental health was not good for one day or more within the past 30 days.



Physical Disability

Respondents were asked if they had ever experienced a physical disability in their lifetime. Approximately 27% of all respondents indicated they had experienced some sort of physical disability, while 73% of respondents stated they had not had a physical disability.

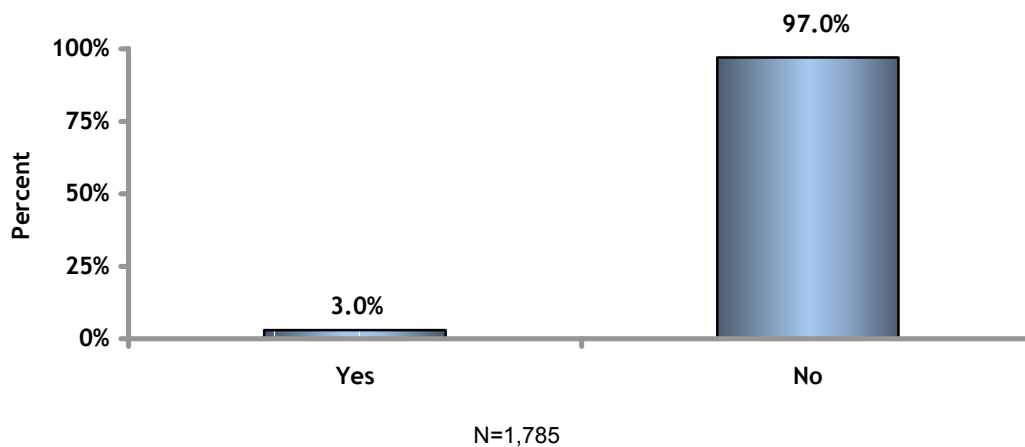
Figure 59: Have you ever experienced a physical disability?



HIV and AIDS

Homeless survey respondents were asked if they had ever experienced HIV, AIDS, or any related diseases. Three percent of the survey population stated they had experienced HIV or AIDS, while 97% indicated they had not experienced these diseases.

Figure 60: Have you ever experienced HIV / AIDS related diseases?



Appendix I: Census Data Collection Instruments

The following pages contain the census data collection instrument for the street count and the shelter/institutional count.

Santa Clara County 2004 Homeless Census and Survey

Street Count Tally Sheet

Deployment Location: _____

Team Captain Phone #: _____

Map # _____

Team Member 1: _____

Team Member 2: _____

Tally individuals in top columns.

# of Individual Men	# of Individual Women	# Undetermined Gender	# of Individual Youth (under 18 years)

Tally families in lower columns.

Family Units	# of Men	# of Women	Youth under 18 years old
Family 1			
Family 2			
Family 3			
Family 4			
Family 5			
Family 6			
Family 7			
Family 8			

Notes:

2004 Santa Clara County Homeless Census and Survey

Shelter-Institution Count Tally Sheet

Facility Name: _____

Phone: _____

Contact Name: _____ Facility Type: _____

Date: _____

Please tally individuals here		
# of Individual Men	# of Individual Women	# of Individual Youth (under 18 years)

Please tally families in these columns.			
Family Units	# of Men	# of Women	# of Youth (under 18 years)
Family 1			
Family 2			
Family 3			
Family 4			
Family 5			
Family 6			
Family 7			
Family 8			
Family 9			
Family 10			

If you have more than 10 families please make a copy of this sheet and label it "Page 2."

Appendix II: Survey Instrument

The following pages contain the survey instrument used for the 2004 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey.

2004 Santa Clara County Homeless Survey Instrument

6800092825

SANTA CLARA COUNTY HOMELESS SURVEY

Interviewer's Name: _____		Interview Date: _____	
Interview Location-Cross Streets: _____ and _____		Interview Time: _____ AM _____ PM	
Neighborhood or city: _____		<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 20px; display: inline-block;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 20px; display: inline-block;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 20px; display: inline-block;"></div>	
Respondent's Initials: First _____ Middle _____ Last _____		<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 20px; display: inline-block;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 20px; display: inline-block;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 20px; display: inline-block;"></div>	

Respondent Introduction and Consent: (Interviewer: Read every answer to respondent)
 Hello, my name is _____, and I'm representing the Santa Clara County Collaborative on Affordable Housing and Homeless Issues. The Office of Homeless Concerns would like to learn more about who the homeless are, what kinds of problems they face, and whether or not their needs are being met.

All of your responses are strictly confidential and completely anonymous, and your privacy will be protected. Your honest response is appreciated and will only be used to benefit the homeless people. Your participation is voluntary. You may withdraw at any time, or refuse to answer any question that makes you uncomfortable. Please, if you have already participated in one survey, do not participate in another.

Would you consider yourself to be homeless? (If no, thank the respondent and tell them we are only interviewing homeless persons for this study.)

Shade Circles Like This--> ●
 Not Like This--> ⊗ ⊙

1. What is your birth date?

Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

2. Which racial / ethnic group do you identify with the most? (Shade only one)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="radio"/> White / Caucasian | <input type="radio"/> American Indian / Alaskan Native |
| <input type="radio"/> Black / African American | <input type="radio"/> Asian / Pacific Islander |
| <input type="radio"/> Hispanic / Latino | <input type="radio"/> Other / Multi-ethnic |

3. Have you ever served on active duty in the United States Armed Forces, either in the regular military or in a National Guard or military reserve unit?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

3a. Are you a disabled veteran?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

4. Who do you currently live with? (Shade only one)

- ☐ Live alone
☐ Live with spouse or significant other
☐ Live with your child/children
☐ Live with your spouse/significant other AND child/children
☐ Other: _____

5. Do you have any children under 18 living with you?

- ☐ Yes

☐ No (Skip to question 7)

6. How many children are currently living with you?

_____ Children

7. Which of the following best describes your current primary living situation? (If the answer is "Shelter" continue with 7a. If not, go to question 8. Shade only one)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Staying with friends/family | <input type="radio"/> Outdoors |
| <input type="radio"/> Short term housing assistance | <input type="radio"/> Hotel/Motel |
| <input type="radio"/> Automobile/Van/Camper | <input type="radio"/> Abandoned building |
| <input type="radio"/> Converted garage | <input type="radio"/> A place in a house not normally used for sleeping (kitchen, living room, etc.) |
| <input type="radio"/> Backyard or storage structure | |
| <input type="radio"/> Staying in transitional housing | |
| <input type="radio"/> Domestic Violence Shelter | <input type="radio"/> Shelter Ask 7a |
| <input type="radio"/> Mental Health Facility | <input type="radio"/> Other |

7a. How would you describe your most recent experience in the shelter?

- ☐ Very good ☐ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Poor

8. In the last 30 days, have you ever tried to access a shelter or transitional housing facility in Santa Clara County and been turned away?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No (Skip to question 9)

8a. Which one were you most recently turned away from?

8b. Why were you turned away? (Shade all that apply)

- ☐ Didn't qualify ☐ Shelter didn't accept friend/family
☐ Didn't follow shelter rules ☐ Shelter didn't accept pets
☐ Shelter had no beds available ☐ Other (Specify): _____

9. How long have you lived in Santa Clara County?

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Less than 6 months | <input type="radio"/> 3 - 5 years |
| <input type="radio"/> 6 - 11 months | <input type="radio"/> 6 - 10 years |
| <input type="radio"/> 1 - 2 years | <input type="radio"/> More than 10 years |

10. How long have you been homeless since your last permanent housing? (Shade only one)

- | | | |
|---|---------------------------------|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Less than 1 month | <input type="radio"/> 6 months | <input type="radio"/> 11 months |
| <input type="radio"/> 2 months | <input type="radio"/> 7 months | <input type="radio"/> 12 months |
| <input type="radio"/> 3 months | <input type="radio"/> 8 months | <input type="radio"/> 1 - 2 years |
| <input type="radio"/> 4 months | <input type="radio"/> 9 months | <input type="radio"/> 3 - 5 years |
| <input type="radio"/> 5 months | <input type="radio"/> 10 months | <input type="radio"/> 6 - 10 years |
| | | <input type="radio"/> More than 10 years |

11. Were you ever homeless prior to your current situation?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No (Skip to 12)

11a. In the last 12 months how many times have you been homeless prior to your current situation (including this last time)?

- ☐ One Time ☐ 3 times ☐ 5 times
☐ 2 times ☐ 4 times ☐ 6 times ☐ More than 6 times

12. What do you think is the primary event or condition that led to your homelessness? (Please choose the main reason. Shade one)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Argument with family or friends | <input type="radio"/> Mental health issues |
| <input type="radio"/> Released from treatment program | <input type="radio"/> Lost job (unemployment) |
| <input type="radio"/> Illness or medical problem | <input type="radio"/> Family violence |
| <input type="radio"/> Unable to pay rent / mortgage | <input type="radio"/> Divorce |
| <input type="radio"/> Alcohol or drug use | <input type="radio"/> Other: _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> Released from jail or prison | <input type="radio"/> Don't Know / declined to state |
| <input type="radio"/> Released from hospital | |
| <input type="radio"/> Emancipation from foster care | |

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SANTA CLARA COUNTY HOMELESS SURVEY

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13. Were you ever in foster care? (Thinking back to before your 18th birthday, were you ever removed from your home by the state, county, or court and sent to live with people other than your mother or father?)

☐ Yes ☐ No

14. What is your gross monthly income from all Government sources? (County, State, Federal monies)

☐ Zero ☐ \$301 - \$400 ☐ \$701 - \$800
☐ Under \$100 ☐ \$401 - \$500 ☐ \$801 - \$900
☐ \$101 - \$200 ☐ \$501 - \$600 ☐ \$901 - \$1000
☐ \$201 - \$300 ☐ \$601 - \$700 ☐ Over \$1000

14a. What is your gross monthly income from all other sources? (Job, panhandling, recycling, etc.)

☐ Zero ☐ \$301 - \$400 ☐ \$701 - \$800
☐ Under \$100 ☐ \$401 - \$500 ☐ \$801 - \$900
☐ \$101 - \$200 ☐ \$501 - \$600 ☐ \$901 - \$1000
☐ \$201 - \$300 ☐ \$601 - \$700 ☐ Over \$1000

15. Are you currently employed?

☐ No, unemployed
☐ Yes, part time (Skip to question 16)
☐ Yes, full time (Skip to question 16)

15a. Why aren't you employed?(Shade all that apply)

☐ Need education ☐ No permanent address
☐ Need training ☐ No transportation
☐ Need clothing ☐ No tools for trade
☐ No shower facilities ☐ No work permit
☐ No phone ☐ Don't want to work
☐ Health problems ☐ No jobs ☐ Other

16. Are you currently receiving any of the following forms of government assistance? (Shade all that apply)

<input type="radio"/> General Relief	<input type="radio"/> SSI (Supplemental Security Income) / SSDI
<input type="radio"/> Food Stamps	<input type="radio"/> Cash Aid (TANF or Welfare) CalWORKS
<input type="radio"/> Medi-Cal	(If yes to any of these, go to 16b)
<input type="radio"/> Veteran's Benefits	<input type="radio"/> I am not currently receiving any of these

(Ask 16a)

16a. If you are not receiving any government assistance, why not? (Shade all that apply)

☐ Have no ID ☐ Dislike hassle
☐ No permanent address ☐ Turned down
☐ No transportation ☐ Will apply soon
☐ Never applied ☐ Don't need government assistance
☐ Waiting for approval ☐ Don't think I'm eligible
☐ Benefits were eliminated ☐ Too difficult to get to each agency
☐ Other (Specify): _____

16b. Are you currently using any of the following services/assistance? (Shade all that apply)

<input type="radio"/> Emergency shelter	<input type="radio"/> Drug counseling
<input type="radio"/> Free meals	<input type="radio"/> Day shelter services
<input type="radio"/> Bus passes	<input type="radio"/> Legal assistance
<input type="radio"/> Job training	<input type="radio"/> Other (Specify): _____
<input type="radio"/> Alcohol counseling	(If yes to any of these, go to 17)
<input type="radio"/> Not currently using any	(Ask 16c)

16c. If you are not receiving any assistance, why not? (Shade all that apply)

☐ Have no ID ☐ On a waiting list
☐ No permanent address ☐ Dislike hassle
☐ No transportation ☐ Turned down
☐ Never applied ☐ Will apply soon
☐ Too difficult to get to each agency ☐ Other (Specify): _____

17. If you have children living with you, do they usually get enough food to eat?

☐ Yes (Skip to question 18)
☐ No
☐ Not Applicable (Skip to question 19)

17a. Why don't they get enough to eat?(Shade all that apply)

☐ Don't know where to go ☐ Custody concerns
☐ Not enough income ☐ No ID
☐ No permanent address ☐ Concerns about Child Protective Services
☐ No transportation ☐ Difficult to get Food Stamps
☐ Other

18. If your children are old enough, are they in school?

☐ Yes (Skip to question 19)
☐ No
☐ Not Applicable (Skip to question 19)

18a. Why aren't they attending school? (Shade all that apply)

☐ Embarrassment ☐ Illness
☐ Transportation problems ☐ Custody issues
☐ Inappropriate clothing ☐ Concerns about Child Protective Services
☐ Immigration issues ☐ Other

19. Where do you usually get medical attention?(Shade only one)

☐ Hospital emergency room ☐ Private doctor
☐ Urgent care clinic ☐ Friends / family
☐ Public health clinic ☐ Don't ever go
☐ Veteran's administration clinic ☐ Don't know
☐ Free clinic/community clinic ☐ Other

20. Have you experienced any of the following situations:

20a. Domestic violence ☐ Yes ☐ No
 20b. Physical disability ☐ Yes ☐ No
 20c. Mental illness/depression ☐ Yes ☐ No
 20d. Alcoholism ☐ Yes ☐ No
 20e. Drug addiction ☐ Yes ☐ No
 20f. AIDS/HIV/ related diseases ☐ Yes ☐ No

21. Thinking about your mental health, which includes stress, depression, and problems with emotions, for how many days during the past 30 days was your mental health not good?

_____ days

--	--

21a. Are you currently receiving mental health services?

☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Declined to state

22. If you drink alcoholic beverages, how many drinks do you drink on the average per day? (A drink is 1 can of beer, 1 glass of wine, 1 cocktail or 1 shot of liquor)

_____ drinks

--	--

22a. Considering all types of alcoholic beverages, how many times during the past 30 days did you have 5 or more drinks on one occasion?

_____ days

--	--

23. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

☐ No high school diploma ☐ AA degree
☐ High school diploma/GED ☐ BA degree
☐ Some college, no degree ☐ Technical Certification

24. Gender of respondent?

☐ Male ☐ Female ☐ Transgender

25. In which language was the interview conducted: (Shade only one box)

☐ English ☐ Spanish ☐ Other

26. Did you distribute a referral card?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Appendix III: Survey Response Frequency Tables

Santa Clara Homeless Results (March 8 2005)

City

Response	Frequency	Percent
San Jose	1346	74.9%
Gilroy	159	8.9%
Palo Alto	157	8.7%
Sunnyvale	37	2.1%
Santa Clara	33	1.8%
East Palo Alto	18	1.0%
San Martin	18	1.0%
Morgan Hill	15	0.8%
Mountain View	11	0.6%
Milpitas	2	0.1%
Total	1796	100.0%

1. Age

Response	Frequency	Percent
Less than 13 years	2	0.1%
13-17 years	14	0.8%
18-22 years	137	7.7%
23-64 years	1596	89.7%
More than 64 years	30	1.7%
Total	1779	100.0%

2. Which racial / ethnic group do you identify with the most?

Response	Frequency	Percent
White / Caucasian	627	35.0%
Hispanic / Latino	559	31.2%
Black / African American	368	20.5%
Asian / Pacific Islander	81	4.5%
American Indian / Alaskan Native	63	3.5%
Other / Multi-ethnic	94	5.2%
Total	1792	100.0%

3. Have you ever served on active duty in the United States Armed Forces, either in the regular military or in a National Guard or military reserve unit?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	345	19.3%
No	1444	80.7%
Total	1789	100.0%

3a. Are you a disabled veteran?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	145	42.4%
No	197	57.6%
Total	342	100.0%

4. Who do you currently live with?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Live alone	1358	75.8%
Live with spouse or significant other	188	10.5%
Live with your child/children	91	5.1%
Live with your spouse/significant other AND child/children	56	3.1%
Other	98	5.5%
Total	1791	100.0%

5. Do you have any children under 18 living with you?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	186	10.5%
No	1587	89.5%
Total	1773	100.0%

6. How many children are currently living with you?

Response	Frequency	Percent
1 children	84	45.2%
2 children	54	29.0%
3 children	25	13.4%
4 children	15	8.1%
5 children	5	2.7%
6 children	2	1.1%
7 children	1	.5%
Total	186	100.0%

7. Which of the following best describes your current primary living situation?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Shelter	484	28.0%
Outdoors	385	22.3%
Staying with friends/family	240	13.9%
Automobile/Van/Camper	147	8.5%
Short term housing assistance	89	5.2%
Hotel/Motel	83	4.8%
Staying in transitional housing	61	3.5%
Converted garage	41	2.4%
A place in a house not normally used for sleeping	41	2.4%
Abandoned building	40	2.3%
Backyard or storage structure	20	1.2%
Mental Health Facility	15	.9%
Domestic Violence Shelter	13	.8%
Other	69	4.0%
Total	1728	100.0%

7a. How would you describe your most recent experience in the shelter?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Very good	139	15.0%
Good	305	33.0%
Fair	316	34.2%
Poor	165	17.8%
Total	925	100.0%

8. In the last 30 days, have you ever tried to access a shelter or transitional housing facility in Santa Clara County and been turned away?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	237	13.6%
No	1512	86.4%
Total	1749	100.0%

8a. Which one were you most recently turned away from?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Emergency Housing Consortium (includes Little Orchard, Embarcadero Shelter, and Boccardo Center)	73	39.2%
InnVision	32	17.2%
Salvation Army	23	12.4%
City Team	16	8.6%
Armory - Sunnyvale	8	4.3%
Julian St. Inn	3	1.6%
Armory - Gilroy	3	1.6%
Clara-Mateo	2	1.1%
Family Supportive Housing	2	1.1%
Georgia Travis	2	1.1%
Hotel Dezink	2	1.1%
Pathway	2	1.1%
Ochoa Camp	2	1.1%
The White Inn	2	1.1%
Mariposa	1	0.5%
Horizon	1	0.5%
V.A.	1	0.5%
Mission	1	0.5%
Sacred Heart	1	0.5%
Hope	1	0.5%
CHAM	1	0.5%
Church in Palo Alto	1	0.5%
CAPS	1	0.5%
Lafayette	1	0.5%
Maple Street	1	0.5%
St. Joseph's Worker House	1	0.5%
Casa Say	1	0.5%
Labor Ready	1	0.5%
Total	186	100.0%

8b. Why were you turned away?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Shelter had no beds available	118	52.4%
Didn't follow shelter rules	38	16.9%
Didn't qualify	32	14.2%
Shelter didn't accept pets	11	4.9%
Shelter didn't accept friend/family	2	0.9%
Other	40	17.8%

Multiple response question with 225 respondents offering 241 responses.

9. How long have you lived in Santa Clara County?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Less than 6 months	204	11.5%
6 - 11 months	112	6.3%
1 - 2 years	225	12.6%
3 - 5 years	249	14.0%
6 - 10 years	224	12.6%
More than 10 years	765	43.0%
Total	1779	100.0%

10. How long have you been homeless since your last permanent housing?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Less than 1 month	170	9.5%
2 months	127	7.1%
3 months	118	6.6%
4 months	97	5.4%
5 months	73	4.1%
6 months	148	8.3%
7 months	51	2.9%
8 months	57	3.2%
9 months	41	2.3%
10 months	39	2.2%
11 months	44	2.5%
12 months	86	4.8%
1 - 2 years	344	19.3%
3 - 5 years	214	12.0%
6 - 10 years	88	4.9%
More than 10 years	87	4.9%
Total	1784	100.0%

11. Were you ever homeless prior to your current situation?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	799	44.5%
No	995	55.5%
Total	1794	100.0%

11a. In the last 12 months how many times have you been homeless prior to your current situation (including this last time)?

Response	Frequency	Percent
One time	1284	71.6%
2 times	187	10.4%
3 times	141	7.9%
4 times	35	2.0%
5 times	29	1.6%
6 times	18	1.0%
More than 6 times	100	5.6%
Total	1794	100.0%

12. What do you think is the primary event or condition that led to your homelessness?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Alcohol or drug use	324	20.5%
Lost job (unemployment)	276	17.5%
Unable to pay rent / mortgage	232	14.7%
Argument with family or friends	201	12.7%
Released from jail or prison	166	10.5%
Illness or medical problem	71	4.5%
Mental health issues	71	4.5%
Family violence	67	4.2%
Divorce	52	3.3%
Released from treatment program	25	1.6%
Emancipation from foster care	11	0.7%
Released from hospital	5	0.3%
Other	79	5.0%
Total	1580	100.0%

13. Were you ever in foster care?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	276	15.6%
No	1496	84.4%
Total	1772	100.0%

14. What is your gross monthly income from all government sources?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Zero	1021	57.7%
Under \$100	43	2.4%
\$101 - \$200	128	7.2%
\$201 - \$300	87	4.9%
\$301 - \$400	78	4.4%
\$401 - \$500	53	3.0%
\$501 - \$600	79	4.5%
\$601 - \$700	53	3.0%
\$701 - \$800	83	4.7%
\$801 - \$900	66	3.7%
\$901 - \$1000	27	1.5%
Over \$1000	53	3.0%
Total	1771	100.0%

14a. What is your gross monthly income from all other sources?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Zero	858	48.4%
Under \$100	264	14.9%
\$101 - \$200	162	9.1%
\$201 - \$300	143	8.1%
\$301 - \$400	94	5.3%
\$401 - \$500	67	3.8%
\$501 - \$600	35	2.0%
\$601 - \$700	18	1.0%
\$701 - \$800	37	2.1%
\$801 - \$900	28	1.6%
\$901 - \$1000	20	1.1%
Over \$1000	45	2.5%
Total	1771	100.0%

15. Are you currently employed?

Response	Frequency	Percent
No, unemployed	1463	81.5%
Yes, part time	240	13.4%
Yes, full time	91	5.1%
Total	1794	100.0%

15a. Why aren't you employed?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Health problems	360	24.9%
No jobs	358	24.8%
No permanent address	331	22.9%
No transportation	318	22.0%
No phone	221	15.3%
Need training	214	14.8%
Need education	193	13.4%
Need clothing	171	11.8%
Don't want to work	161	11.1%
No tools for trade	105	7.3%
No shower facilities	103	7.1%
No work permit	67	4.6%
Other	212	14.7%

Multiple response question with 1445 respondents offering 2814 responses.

16. Are you currently receiving any of the following forms of government assistance?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Food Stamps	311	17.7%
General Relief	211	12.0%
SSI (Supplemental Security Income) / SSDI	195	11.1%
Medi-Cal	193	11.0%
Cash Aid (TANF or Welfare) CalWORKS	111	6.3%
Veteran's benefits	89	5.1%
I am not currently receiving any of these	1018	57.9%

Multiple response question with 1758 respondents offering 2128 responses.

16a. If you are not receiving any government assistance, why not?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Never applied	249	22.1%
Dislike hassle	181	16.1%
Have no ID	179	15.9%
No transportation	171	15.2%
Don't think I'm eligible	137	12.2%
Will apply soon	109	9.7%
No permanent address	91	8.1%
Don't need government assistance	90	8.0%
Turned down	84	7.5%
Too difficult to get to each agency	71	6.3%
Waiting for approval	61	5.4%
Benefits were eliminated	34	3.0%
Other	155	13.8%

Multiple response question with 1126 respondents offering 1612 responses.

16b. Are you currently using any of the following services/ assistance?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Free meals	1005	57.3%
Emergency shelter	598	34.1%
Bus passes	308	17.6%
Day shelter services	256	14.6%
Alcohol counseling	181	10.3%
Drug counseling	170	9.7%
Job training	109	6.2%
Legal assistance	48	2.7%
Other	97	5.5%
Not currently using any services/assistance	329	18.8%

Multiple response question with 1753 respondents offering 3101 responses.

16c. If you are not receiving any assistance, why not?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Never applied	178	24.9%
Dislike hassle	146	20.4%
Have no ID	133	18.6%
No permanent address	132	18.5%
No transportation	104	14.6%
Will apply soon	104	14.6%
Turned down	64	9.0%
Too difficult to get to each agency	54	7.6%
On a waiting list	24	3.4%
Other	100	14.0%

Multiple response question with 714 respondents offering 1039 responses.

17. If you have children living with you, do they usually get enough food to eat?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	154	84.6%
No	28	15.4%
Total	182	100.0%

17a. Why don't they get enough to eat?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Not enough income	10	41.7%
No permanent address	7	29.2%
Concerns about Child Protective Services	4	16.7%
No transportation	2	8.3%
Custody concerns	1	4.2%
No ID	1	4.2%
Difficult to get Food Stamps	1	4.2%
Other	6	25.0%

Multiple response question with 24 respondents offering 32 responses.

18. If your children are old enough, are they in school?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	128	87.1%
No	19	12.9%
Total	147	100.0%

18a. Why aren't they attending school?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Concerns about Child Protective Services	6	31.6%
Inappropriate clothing	4	21.1%
Embarrassment	2	10.5%
Transportation problems	2	10.5%
Custody issues	1	5.3%
Other	9	47.4%

Multiple response question with 19 respondents offering 24 responses.

19. Where do you usually get medical attention?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Hospital emergency room	444	26.2%
Free clinic/community clinic	359	21.2%
Public Health clinic	302	17.8%
Veteran's Administration clinic	160	9.4%
Don't ever go	158	9.3%
Urgent care clinic	108	6.4%
Private doctor	77	4.5%
Friends / family	15	0.9%
Don't know	26	1.5%
Other	48	2.8%
Total	1697	100.0%

20a. Have you experienced domestic violence?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	580	32.5%
No	1205	67.5%
Total	1785	100.0%

20b. Have you experienced a physical disability?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	476	26.7%
No	1310	73.3%
Total	1786	100.0%

20c. Have you experienced mental illness/depression?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	640	35.9%
No	1142	64.1%
Total	1782	100.0%

20d. Have you experienced alcoholism?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	803	45.0%
No	982	55.0%
Total	1785	100.0%

20e. Have you experienced drug addiction?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	798	44.8%
No	985	55.2%
Total	1783	100.0%

20f. Have you experienced AIDS/HIV related diseases?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	53	3.0%
No	1732	97.0%
Total	1785	100.0%

21. For how many days during the past 30 days was your mental health not good?

Response	Frequency	Percent
0 days	696	40.8%
1 - 7 days	305	17.9%
8 - 14 days	218	12.8%
15 - 21 days	192	11.3%
22 - 30 days	295	17.3%
Total	1706	100.0%

21a. Are you currently receiving mental health services?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	258	16.4%
No	1313	83.6%
Total	1571	100.0%

22. If you drink alcoholic beverages, how many drinks do you drink on the average per day?

Response	Frequency	Percent
0 drinks	897	52.6%
1 - 5 drinks	548	32.2%
6 - 10 drinks	170	10.0%
11 - 15 drinks	58	3.4%
16 - 20 drinks	17	1.0%
21+ drinks	14	0.8%
Total	1704	100.0%

22a. Considering all types of alcoholic beverages, how many times during the past 30 days did you have 5 or more drinks on one occasion?

Response	Frequency	Percent
0 times	931	54.7%
1 time	44	2.6%
2 times	76	4.5%
3 times	56	3.3%
4 times	51	3.0%
5+ times	543	31.9%
Total	1701	100.0%

23. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

Response	Frequency	Percent
No high school diploma	696	39.3%
High school diploma/GED	656	37.0%
Some college, no degree	284	16.0%
AA degree	54	3.0%
BA degree	42	2.4%
Technical Certification	40	2.3%
Total	1772	100.0%

The following questions were answered by the interviewer:

24. Gender

Response	Frequency	Percent
Male	1295	72.5%
Female	486	27.2%
Transgender	5	.3%
Total	1786	100.0%

25. In which language was the interview conducted?

Response	Frequency	Percent
English	1649	91.8%
Spanish	127	7.1%
Other	20	1.1%
Total	1796	100.0%

26. Did you distribute a referral card?

Response	Frequency	Percent
No	768	44.3%
Yes	966	55.7%
Total	1734	100.0%

Appendix IV: Survey Response Profiles and Cross Tabulations

- Santa Clara Homeless Survey: Chronically Homeless Results on page 82
- Santa Clara Homeless Survey: Ethnicity Results on page 92
- Santa Clara Homeless Survey: Families Results on page 106
- Santa Clara Homeless Survey: Veteran's Results on page 117
- Santa Clara Homeless Survey: Sheltered – Unsheltered Results on page 128
- Cross-Tabulations on page 140

Santa Clara Homeless Survey: Chronically Homeless Results

1. AGE

Response	Frequency	Percent
18-22 years	26	4.2%
23-64 years	579	93.2%
More than 64 years	16	2.6%
Total	621	100.0%

2. Which racial / ethnic group do you identify with the most?

Response	Frequency	Percent
White / Caucasian	257	41.3%
Black / African American	119	19.1%
Hispanic / Latino	178	28.6%
American Indian / Alaskan Native	20	3.2%
Asian / Pacific Islander	20	3.2%
Other / Multi-ethnic	29	4.7%
Total	623	100.0%

3. Have you ever served on active duty in the United States Armed Forces, either in the regular military or in a National Guard or military reserve unit?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	153	24.7%
No	467	75.3%
Total	620	100.0%

3a. Are you a disabled veteran?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	74	48.7%
No	78	51.3%
Total	152	100.0%

4. Who do you currently live with?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Live alone	513	82.3%
Live with spouse or significant other	62	10.0%
Live with your child/children	16	2.6%
Live with your spouse/significant other AND child/children	8	1.3%
Other	24	3.9%
Total	623	100.0%

5. Do you have any children under 18 living with you?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	29	4.8%
No	576	95.2%
Total	605	100.0%

6. How many children are currently living with you?

Response	Frequency	Percent
1	19	65.5%
2	7	24.1%
3	2	6.9%
4	1	3.4%
Total	29	100.0%

7. Which of the following best describes your current primary living situation?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Staying with friends/family	46	7.8%
Short term housing assistance	25	4.2%
Automobile/Van/Camper	59	10.0%
Converted garage	11	1.9%
Backyard or storage structure	6	1.0%
Staying in transitional housing	19	3.2%
Domestic Violence Shelter	3	0.5%
Mental Health Facility	6	1.0%
Outdoors	199	33.8%
Hotel/Motel	30	5.1%
Abandoned building	17	2.9%
A place in a house not normally used for sleeping	6	1.0%
Shelter	137	23.3%
Other	25	4.2%
Total	589	100.0%

7a. How would you describe your most recent experience in the shelter?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Very good	46	14.7%
Good	98	31.3%
Fair	101	32.3%
Poor	68	21.7%
Total	313	100.0%

8. In the last 30 days, have you ever tried to access a shelter or transitional housing facility in Santa Clara County and been turned away?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	91	14.9%
No	520	85.1%
Total	611	100.0%

8a. Which one were you most recently turned away from?

Response	Frequency	Percent
EHC	30	40.5%
InnVision	11	14.9%
Salvation Army	10	13.5%
City Team	3	4.1%
Julian St. Inn	3	4.1%
Armory - Sunnyvale	2	2.7%
Hotel Dezink	2	2.7%
CAPS	1	1.4%
Casa Say	1	1.4%
CHAM	1	1.4%
Church in Palo Alto	1	1.4%
Georgia Travis	1	1.4%
Hope	1	1.4%
Horizon	1	1.4%
Labor Ready	1	1.4%
Maple Street	1	1.4%
Mariposa	1	1.4%
Mission	1	1.4%
Pathway	1	1.4%
The White Inn	1	1.4%
Total	74	100.0%

8b. Why were you turned away?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Didn't qualify	18	20.2%
Didn't follow shelter rules	11	12.4%
Shelter had no beds available	47	52.8%
Shelter didn't accept friend/family	1	1.1%
Shelter didn't accept pets	2	2.2%
Other	20	22.5%

Multiple response question with 89 respondents offering 99 responses.

9. How long have you lived in Santa Clara County?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Less than 6 months	41	6.6%
6 - 11 months	17	2.7%
1 - 2 years	70	11.3%
3 - 5 years	84	13.6%
6 - 10 years	73	11.8%
More than 10 years	334	54.0%
Total	619	100.0%

10. How long have you been homeless since your last permanent housing?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Less than 1 month	3	0.5%
1-3 months	9	1.4%
4-6 months	12	1.9%
7-9 months	7	1.1%
10-12 months	7	1.1%
1-2 years	256	41.2%
More than 2 years	328	52.7%
Total	622	100.0%

11. Were you ever homeless prior to your current situation?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	315	50.6%
No	308	49.4%
Total	623	100.0%

11a. In the last 12 months how many times have you been homeless prior to your current situation(including this last time)?

Response	Frequency	Percent
One time	388	62.3%
2 times	47	7.5%
3 times	45	7.2%
4 times	26	4.2%
5 times	24	3.9%
6 times	14	2.2%
More than 6 times	79	12.7%
Total	623	100.0%

12. What do you think is the primary event or condition that led to your homelessness

Response	Frequency	Percent
Argument with family or friends	39	7.4%
Released from treatment program	7	1.3%
Illness or medical problem	36	6.9%
Unable to pay rent / mortgage	56	10.7%
Alcohol or drug use	158	30.2%
Released from jail or prison	59	11.3%
Released from hospital	1	0.2%
Emancipation from foster care	1	0.2%
Mental health issues	36	6.9%
Lost job (unemployment)	85	16.2%
Family violence	9	1.7%
Divorce	14	2.7%
Other	23	4.4%
Total	524	100.0%

13. Were you ever in foster care?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	90	14.6%
No	527	85.4%
Total	617	100.0%

14. What is your gross monthly income from all government sources?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Zero	364	58.9%
Under \$100	12	1.9%
\$101 - \$200	42	6.8%
\$201 - \$300	27	4.4%
\$301 - \$400	24	3.9%
\$401 - \$500	11	1.8%
\$501 - \$600	26	4.2%
\$601 - \$700	15	2.4%
\$701 - \$800	30	4.9%
\$801 - \$900	33	5.3%
\$901 - \$1000	15	2.4%
Over \$1000	19	3.1%
Total	618	100.0%

14a. What is your gross monthly income from all other sources?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Zero	299	48.8%
Under \$100	105	17.1%
\$101 - \$200	59	9.6%
\$201 - \$300	48	7.8%
\$301 - \$400	30	4.9%
\$401 - \$500	15	2.4%
\$501 - \$600	12	2.0%
\$601 - \$700	7	1.1%
\$701 - \$800	8	1.3%
\$801 - \$900	12	2.0%
\$901 - \$1000	6	1.0%
Over \$1000	12	2.0%
Total	613	100.0%

15. Are you currently employed?

Response	Frequency	Percent
No, unemployed	558	89.6%
Yes, part time	51	8.2%
Yes, full time	14	2.2%
Total	623	100.0%

15a. Why aren't you employed?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Need education	71	12.9%
Need training	80	14.5%
Need clothing	81	14.7%
No shower facilities	44	8.0%
No phone	83	15.1%
Health problems	169	30.7%
No permanent address	141	25.6%
No transportation	114	20.7%
No tools for trade	40	7.3%
No work permit	22	4.0%
Don't want to work	92	16.7%
No jobs	122	22.1%
Other	77	14.0%

Multiple response question with 551 respondents offering 1136 responses.

16. Are you currently receiving any of the following forms of government assistance?

Response	Frequency	Percent
General Relief	65	10.6%
Food Stamps	73	11.9%
Medi-Cal	43	7.0%
Veteran's Benefits	39	6.4%
SSI (Supplemental Security Income) / SSDI	96	15.7%
Cash Aid (TANF or Welfare) CalWORKS	23	3.8%
I am not currently receiving any of these	360	58.9%

Multiple response question with 611 respondents offering 699 responses.

16a. If you are not receiving any government assistance, why not?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Have no ID	73	18.3%
No transportation	87	21.9%
No permanent address	44	11.1%
Never applied	82	20.6%
Waiting for approval	25	6.3%
Benefits were eliminated	15	3.8%
Dislike hassle	90	22.6%
Turned down	38	9.5%
Will apply soon	38	9.5%
Don't need government assistance	27	6.8%
Don't think I'm eligible	45	11.3%
Too difficult to get to each agency	28	7.0%
Other	42	10.6%

Multiple response question with 398 respondents offering 634 responses.

16b. Are you currently using any of the following services/ assistance?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Emergency shelter	198	32.6%
Free meals	382	62.8%
Bus passes	105	17.3%
Job training	29	4.8%
Alcohol counseling	57	9.4%
Drug counseling	55	9.0%
Day shelter services	108	17.8%
Legal assistance	21	3.5%
Other	25	4.1%
Not currently using any services/assistance	119	19.6%

Multiple response question with 608 respondents offering 1099 responses.

16c. If you are not receiving any assistance, why not?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Have no ID	49	19.4%
No permanent address	51	20.2%
No transportation	38	15.1%
Never applied	57	22.6%
Too difficult to get to each agency	20	7.9%
On a waiting list	8	3.2%
Dislike hassle	68	27.0%
Turned down	26	10.3%
Will apply soon	39	15.5%
Other	29	11.5%

Multiple response question with 252 respondents offering 385 responses.

17. If you have children living with you, do they usually get enough food to eat?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	21	77.8%
No	6	22.2%
Total	27	100.0%

17a. Why don't they get enough to eat?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Concerns about Child Protective Services	2	40.0%
Not enough income	2	40.0%
Difficult to get Food Stamps	1	20.0%
No permanent address	1	20.0%
No transportation	1	20.0%
Custody concerns	0	0.0%
Don't know where to go	0	0.0%
No ID	0	0.0%
Other	1	20.0%

Multiple response question with 5 respondents offering 8 responses.

18. If your children are old enough, are they in school?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	22	88.0%
No	3	12.0%
Total	25	100.0%

18a. Why aren't they attending school?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Concerns about Child Protective Services	2	66.7%
Custody issues	1	33.3%
Embarrassment	0	0.0%
Illness	0	0.0%
Immigration issues	0	0.0%
Inappropriate clothing	0	0.0%
Transportation problems	0	0.0%
Other	0	0.0%

Multiple response question with 3 respondents offering 3 responses.

19. Where do you usually get medical attention?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Hospital emergency room	180	30.8%
Urgent care clinic	43	7.4%
Public Health clinic	72	12.3%
Veteran's Administration clinic	74	12.7%
Free clinic/community clinic	116	19.9%
Private doctor	14	2.4%
Friends / family	1	0.2%
Don't ever go	63	10.8%
Don't know	6	1.0%
Other	15	2.6%
Total	584	100.0%

20a. Have you experienced domestic violence?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	188	30.2%
No	435	69.8%
Total	623	100.0%

20b. Have you experienced a physical disability?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	256	41.1%
No	367	58.9%
Total	623	100.0%

20c. Have you experienced mental illness/depression?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	301	48.4%
No	321	51.6%
Total	622	100.0%

20d. Have you experienced alcoholism?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	380	61.0%
No	243	39.0%
Total	623	100.0%

20e. Have you experienced drug addiction?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	368	59.1%
No	255	40.9%
Total	623	100.0%

20f. Have you experienced AIDS/HIV related diseases?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	19	3.1%
No	603	96.9%
Total	622	100.0%

21. For how many days during the past 30 days was your mental health not good?

Response	Frequency	Percent
0 days	195	32.6%
1 - 7 days	98	16.4%
8 - 14 days	80	13.4%
15 - 21 days	80	13.4%
22 - 30 days	145	24.2%
Total	598	100.0%

21a. Are you currently receiving mental health services?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	117	21.4%
No	431	78.6%
Total	548	100.0%

22. If you drink alcoholic beverages, how many drinks do you drink on the average per day?

Response	Frequency	Percent
0 drinks	266	45.3%
1 - 5 drinks	172	29.3%
6 - 10 drinks	99	16.9%
11 - 15 drinks	30	5.1%
16 - 20 drinks	11	1.9%
21+ drinks	9	1.5%
Total	587	100.0%

22a. Considering all types of alcoholic beverages, how many times during the past 30 days did you have 5 or more drinks on one occasion?

Response	Frequency	Percent
0 times	278	46.7%
1 time	13	2.2%
2 times	25	4.2%
3 times	8	1.3%
4 times	11	1.8%
5+ times	260	43.7%
Total	595	100.0%

23. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

Response	Frequency	Percent
No high school diploma	253	40.8%
High school diploma/GED	212	34.2%
Some college, no degree	109	17.6%
AA degree	19	3.1%
BA degree	15	2.4%
Technical Certification	12	1.9%
Total	620	100.0%

The following questions were answered by the interviewer:

24. Gender

Response	Frequency	Percent
Male	481	77.7%
Female	137	22.1%
Transgender	1	0.2%
Total	619	100.0%

25. In which language was the interview conducted?

Response	Frequency	Percent
English	595	95.5%
Spanish	26	4.2%
Other	2	0.3%
Total	623	100.0%

26. Did you distribute a referral card?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	310	51.2%
No	295	48.8%
Total	605	100.0%

27. Neighborhood or city

Response	Frequency	Percent
East Palo Alto	8	1.3%
Gilroy	38	6.1%
Milpitas	2	0.3%
Morgan Hill	3	0.5%
Mountain	4	0.6%
Palo Alto	75	12.0%
San Jose	461	74.0%
San Martin	2	0.3%
Santa Clara	17	2.7%
Sunnyvale	13	2.1%
Total	623	100.0%

Santa Clara Homeless Survey: Ethnicity Results**1. AGE**

Response	White / Caucasian	Black / African American	Hispanic / Latino	Other / Multi-ethnic
Less than 13 years	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
13-17 years	0.2%	0.8%	1.4%	0.9%
18-22 years	6.1%	7.4%	8.3%	11.1%
23-64 years	91.3%	90.7%	88.6%	86.3%
More than 64 years	2.1%	1.1%	1.6%	1.7%
Total	621	366	555	234

2. Which racial / ethnic group do you identify with the most?

Response	White / Caucasian	Black / African American	Hispanic / Latino	Other / Multi-ethnic
White / Caucasian	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Black / African American	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Hispanic / Latino	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%
American Indian / Alaskan Native	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	26.5%
Asian / Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	34.0%
Other / Multi-ethnic	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	39.5%
Total	627	368	559	238

3. Have you ever served on active duty in the United States Armed Forces, either in the regular military or in a National Guard or military reserve unit?

Response	White / Caucasian	Black / African American	Hispanic / Latino	Other / Multi-ethnic
Yes	26.3%	24.0%	9.4%	16.8%
No	73.7%	76.0%	90.6%	83.2%
Total	627	366	555	238

3a. Are you a disabled veteran?

Response	White / Caucasian	Black / African American	Hispanic / Latino	Other / Multi-ethnic
Yes	39.5%	42.0%	51.9%	42.5%
No	60.5%	58.0%	48.1%	57.5%
Total	162	88	52	40

4. Who do you currently live with?

Response	White / Caucasian	Black / African American	Hispanic / Latino	Other / Multi-ethnic
Live alone	78.9%	80.9%	71.3%	70.3%
Live with spouse or significant other	12.6%	8.7%	9.0%	11.4%
Live with your child/children	3.4%	4.1%	6.5%	7.6%
Live with your spouse/significant other AND child/children	0.8%	2.2%	6.3%	3.4%
Other	4.3%	4.1%	7.0%	7.2%
Total	626	367	558	236

5. Do you have any children under 18 living with you?

Response	White / Caucasian	Black / African American	Hispanic / Latino	Other / Multi-ethnic
Yes	4.9%	7.8%	16.4%	15.3%
No	95.1%	92.2%	83.6%	84.7%
Total	617	361	555	236

6. How many children are currently living with you?

Response	White / Caucasian	Black / African American	Hispanic / Latino	Other / Multi-ethnic
1	70.0%	57.1%	34.1%	41.7%
2	16.7%	39.3%	29.7%	30.6%
3	10.0%	3.6%	17.6%	13.9%
4	3.3%	0.0%	9.9%	13.9%
5	0.0%	0.0%	5.5%	0.0%
6	0.0%	0.0%	2.2%	0.0%
7	0.0%	0.0%	1.1%	0.0%
Total	30	28	91	36

7. Which of the following best describes your current primary living situation?

Response	White / Caucasian	Black / African American	Hispanic / Latino	Other / Multi-ethnic
Staying with friends/family	10.3%	12.4%	19.7%	12.2%
Short term housing assistance	4.7%	5.6%	5.9%	3.9%
Automobile/Van/Camper	10.5%	10.7%	6.1%	5.7%
Converted garage	3.2%	0.6%	2.4%	3.1%
Backyard or storage structure	0.8%	1.1%	1.3%	1.7%
Staying in transitional housing	3.7%	2.3%	3.7%	4.8%
Domestic Violence Shelter	0.2%	1.1%	1.1%	0.9%
Mental Health Facility	0.7%	1.4%	0.6%	1.3%
Outdoors	24.9%	18.6%	22.3%	21.0%
Hotel/Motel	4.5%	7.0%	3.7%	4.8%
Abandoned building	2.5%	2.0%	2.0%	3.1%
A place in a house not normally used for sleeping	1.7%	2.3%	2.8%	3.1%
Shelter	29.2%	32.4%	22.7%	30.1%
Other	3.3%	2.5%	5.6%	4.4%
Total	602	355	538	229

7a. How would you describe your most recent experience in the shelter?

Response	White / Caucasian	Black / African American	Hispanic / Latino	Other / Multi-ethnic
Very good	19.2%	11.1%	13.7%	14.0%
Good	34.9%	31.2%	34.2%	28.7%
Fair	30.2%	37.7%	33.5%	39.5%
Poor	15.7%	20.1%	18.7%	17.8%
Total	318	199	278	129

8. In the last 30 days, have you ever tried to access a shelter or transitional housing facility in Santa Clara County and been turned away?

Response	White / Caucasian	Black / African American	Hispanic / Latino	Other / Multi-ethnic
Yes	10.6%	16.5%	13.8%	16.4%
No	89.4%	83.5%	86.2%	83.6%
Total	614	357	544	232

8a. Which one were you most recently turned away from?

Response	White / Caucasian	Black / African American	Hispanic / Latino	Other / Multi-ethnic
InnVision	20.8%	21.7%	14.3%	9.7%
Salvation Army	11.3%	10.9%	8.9%	22.6%
Clara-Mateo	1.9%	0.0%	1.8%	0.0%
Mariposa	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	3.2%
Julian St. Inn	0.0%	6.5%	0.0%	0.0%
City Team	7.5%	8.7%	3.6%	19.4%
EHC	37.7%	39.1%	46.4%	29.0%
Horizon	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	3.2%
Georgia Travis	1.9%	0.0%	0.0%	3.2%
Hotel Dezink	1.9%	2.2%	0.0%	0.0%
Pathway	1.9%	0.0%	1.8%	0.0%
V.A.	0.0%	2.2%	0.0%	0.0%
Mission	0.0%	0.0%	1.8%	0.0%
Armory - Gilroy	3.8%	0.0%	1.8%	0.0%
Sacred Heart	0.0%	2.2%	0.0%	0.0%
Armory - Sunnyvale	7.5%	0.0%	5.4%	3.2%
Family Supportive Housing	0.0%	0.0%	3.6%	0.0%
Ochoa Camp	0.0%	0.0%	1.8%	3.2%
The White Inn	0.0%	2.2%	0.0%	3.2%
Hope	0.0%	0.0%	1.8%	0.0%
CHAM	0.0%	0.0%	1.8%	0.0%
Church in Palo Alto	1.9%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
CAPS	0.0%	0.0%	1.8%	0.0%
Lafayette	0.0%	0.0%	1.8%	0.0%
Maple Street	1.9%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
St. Joseph's Worker House	0.0%	2.2%	0.0%	0.0%
Casa Say	0.0%	0.0%	1.8%	0.0%
Labor Ready	0.0%	2.2%	0.0%	0.0%
Total	53	46	56	31

8b. Why were you turned away?

Response	White / Caucasian	Black / African American	Hispanic / Latino	Other / Multi-ethnic
Didn't qualify	14.5%	10.5%	20.3%	8.1%
Didn't follow shelter rules	12.9%	17.5%	11.6%	32.4%
Shelter had no beds available	54.8%	49.1%	53.6%	51.4%
Shelter didn't accept friend/family	0.0%	1.8%	1.4%	0.0%
Shelter didn't accept pets	1.6%	3.5%	10.1%	2.7%
Other	19.4%	22.8%	15.9%	10.8%
Total Cases	62	57	69	37
Total Responses	64	60	78	39

9. How long have you lived in Santa Clara County?

Response	White / Caucasian	Black / African American	Hispanic / Latino	Other / Multi-ethnic
Less than 6 months	14.7%	9.8%	8.7%	12.2%
6 - 11 months	5.5%	8.7%	5.4%	6.3%
1 - 2 years	11.1%	13.1%	13.8%	13.1%
3 - 5 years	12.9%	15.3%	13.6%	16.0%
6 - 10 years	12.9%	15.6%	9.1%	15.2%
More than 10 years	43.0%	37.4%	49.5%	37.1%
Total	621	366	552	237

10. How long have you been homeless since your last permanent housing?

Response	White / Caucasian	Black / African American	Hispanic / Latino	Other / Multi-ethnic
Less than 1 month	8.7%	8.7%	11.2%	8.9%
2 months	4.8%	8.7%	7.2%	10.2%
3 months	6.1%	8.2%	6.3%	6.4%
4 months	5.6%	4.4%	5.9%	5.5%
5 months	2.7%	4.6%	3.4%	8.5%
6 months	5.8%	9.3%	10.3%	8.9%
7 months	2.9%	3.3%	2.9%	2.1%
8 months	3.5%	3.3%	2.7%	3.4%
9 months	2.2%	1.9%	2.7%	2.1%
10 months	2.2%	3.6%	1.3%	1.7%
11 months	2.2%	3.6%	2.3%	1.7%
12 months	5.1%	4.1%	4.3%	6.4%
1 - 2 years	21.5%	16.4%	19.6%	17.4%
3 - 5 years	14.9%	11.5%	11.7%	6.0%
6 - 10 years	5.0%	4.4%	5.2%	5.1%
More than 10 years	6.7%	4.1%	3.1%	5.5%
Total	624	366	556	235

11. Were you ever homeless prior to your current situation?

Response	White / Caucasian	Black / African American	Hispanic / Latino	Other / Multi-ethnic
Yes	45.1%	45.4%	44.4%	42.6%
No	54.9%	54.6%	55.6%	57.4%
Total	627	368	559	237

11a. In the last 12 months how many times have you been homeless prior to your current situation (including this last time)?

Response	White / Caucasian	Black / African American	Hispanic / Latino	Other / Multi-ethnic
One time	74.8%	66.6%	70.7%	72.6%
2 times	9.3%	10.9%	11.8%	9.7%
3 times	6.5%	10.9%	7.3%	8.0%
4 times	2.4%	3.0%	1.6%	0.0%
5 times	1.3%	1.4%	2.5%	0.8%
6 times	0.3%	2.2%	0.9%	1.3%
More than 6 times	5.4%	5.2%	5.2%	7.6%
Total	627	368	559	237

12. What do you think is the primary event or condition that led to your homelessness

Response	White / Caucasian	Black / African American	Hispanic / Latino	Other / Multi-ethnic
Argument with family or friends	12.8%	10.1%	13.2%	15.7%
Released from treatment program	1.7%	0.9%	1.4%	2.9%
Illness or medical problem	6.8%	3.1%	3.0%	4.3%
Unable to pay rent / mortgage	14.0%	13.5%	16.0%	14.8%
Alcohol or drug use	21.3%	25.1%	19.4%	14.3%
Released from jail or prison	8.5%	13.5%	10.8%	10.0%
Released from hospital	0.0%	0.9%	0.2%	0.5%
Emancipation from foster care	0.4%	1.2%	1.0%	0.0%
Mental health issues	5.4%	5.2%	2.4%	5.7%
Lost job (unemployment)	16.6%	16.5%	20.2%	14.8%
Family violence	4.3%	2.4%	4.4%	6.7%
Divorce	4.6%	2.1%	2.0%	4.8%
Other	3.7%	5.5%	5.8%	5.7%
Total	541	327	499	210

13. Were you ever in foster care?

Response	White / Caucasian	Black / African American	Hispanic / Latino	Other / Multi-ethnic
Yes	15.7%	15.3%	12.9%	22.0%
No	84.3%	84.7%	87.1%	78.0%
Total	618	365	550	236

14. What is your gross monthly income from all government sources?

Response	White / Caucasian	Black / African American	Hispanic / Latino	Other / Multi-ethnic
Zero	55.0%	56.1%	64.5%	51.5%
Under \$100	2.4%	2.8%	2.4%	2.1%
\$101 - \$200	8.0%	7.7%	7.1%	4.7%
\$201 - \$300	5.8%	6.1%	2.4%	6.4%
\$301 - \$400	4.8%	3.0%	3.6%	6.8%
\$401 - \$500	2.4%	3.3%	2.6%	5.1%
\$501 - \$600	3.9%	3.0%	5.8%	5.1%
\$601 - \$700	1.8%	3.9%	2.9%	5.1%
\$701 - \$800	5.0%	6.6%	3.8%	3.0%
\$801 - \$900	5.3%	3.3%	2.0%	4.3%
\$901 - \$1000	2.1%	1.1%	0.9%	2.1%
Over \$1000	3.5%	3.0%	2.0%	3.8%
Total	622	362	549	235

14a. What is your gross monthly income from all other sources?

Response	White / Caucasian	Black / African American	Hispanic / Latino	Other / Multi-ethnic
Zero	47.2%	53.4%	48.1%	44.7%
Under \$100	17.2%	15.4%	11.7%	15.7%
\$101 - \$200	9.2%	7.4%	11.3%	6.8%
\$201 - \$300	6.9%	8.0%	8.9%	8.9%
\$301 - \$400	5.5%	3.3%	4.6%	9.8%
\$401 - \$500	4.0%	2.5%	3.6%	5.5%
\$501 - \$600	1.9%	1.4%	2.6%	1.7%
\$601 - \$700	0.8%	0.8%	1.3%	1.3%
\$701 - \$800	2.4%	1.1%	2.9%	0.9%
\$801 - \$900	1.6%	2.5%	0.9%	1.7%
\$901 - \$1000	1.1%	1.1%	1.1%	1.3%
Over \$1000	2.1%	3.0%	3.1%	1.7%
Total	621	363	549	235

15. Are you currently employed?

Response	White / Caucasian	Black / African American	Hispanic / Latino	Other / Multi-ethnic
No, unemployed	82.0%	87.2%	79.1%	77.7%
Yes, part time	13.4%	7.9%	15.6%	16.4%
Yes, full time	4.6%	4.9%	5.4%	5.9%
Total	627	367	559	238

15a. Why aren't you employed?

Response	White / Caucasian	Black / African American	Hispanic / Latino	Other / Multi-ethnic
Need education	8.4%	16.5%	15.4%	16.9%
Need training	14.1%	15.5%	16.6%	11.5%
Need clothing	11.0%	14.9%	12.4%	7.7%
No shower facilities	6.7%	8.9%	7.4%	4.9%
No phone	17.3%	15.8%	14.3%	11.5%
Health problems	30.6%	21.2%	21.2%	24.0%
No permanent address	23.5%	24.1%	21.9%	21.9%
No transportation	21.2%	24.1%	23.7%	16.9%
No tools for trade	7.8%	6.3%	9.0%	3.3%
No work permit	2.0%	2.8%	9.7%	3.3%
Don't want to work	13.5%	13.0%	7.4%	10.4%
No jobs	24.3%	22.2%	27.9%	23.0%
Other	16.7%	13.3%	13.4%	14.8%
Total Cases	510	316	434	183
Total Responses	1005	627	869	311

16. Are you currently receiving any of the following forms of government assistance?

Response	White / Caucasian	Black / African American	Hispanic / Latino	Other / Multi-ethnic
General Relief	13.7%	13.3%	8.9%	11.9%
Food Stamps	18.3%	16.0%	16.5%	20.9%
Medi-Cal	9.2%	8.8%	11.9%	16.2%
Veteran's Benefits	7.1%	5.5%	2.8%	4.3%
SSI (Supplemental Security Income) / SSDI	13.2%	12.2%	9.5%	7.7%
Cash Aid (TANF or Welfare) CalWORKS	3.4%	4.7%	9.1%	10.2%
I am not currently receiving any of these	54.3%	58.0%	61.2%	60.4%
Total Cases	619	362	539	235
Total Responses	738	429	646	309

16a. If you are not receiving any government assistance, why not?

Response	White / Caucasian	Black / African American	Hispanic / Latino	Other / Multi-ethnic
Have no ID	13.6%	12.2%	21.4%	13.7%
No transportation	15.2%	14.7%	18.2%	8.5%
No permanent address	6.9%	9.7%	9.1%	5.9%
Never applied	23.0%	17.6%	24.1%	22.2%
Waiting for approval	5.0%	7.1%	4.0%	7.2%
Benefits were eliminated	3.6%	3.4%	2.1%	3.3%
Dislike hassle	19.7%	16.0%	13.1%	15.0%
Turned down	6.9%	8.4%	6.4%	9.8%
Will apply soon	10.2%	13.9%	7.8%	6.5%
Don't need government assistance	7.5%	9.2%	7.8%	7.8%
Don't think I'm eligible	11.1%	8.8%	15.0%	13.1%
Too difficult to get to each agency	6.4%	9.7%	5.1%	3.9%
Other	12.2%	13.4%	15.0%	15.0%
Total Cases	361	238	374	153
Total Responses	510	343	557	202

16b. Are you currently using any of the following services/ assistance?

Response	White / Caucasian	Black / African American	Hispanic / Latino	Other / Multi-ethnic
Emergency shelter	36.0%	38.2%	30.6%	30.6%
Free meals	60.8%	55.7%	54.9%	56.5%
Bus passes	17.3%	16.9%	17.8%	19.0%
Job training	6.2%	6.9%	5.2%	7.8%
Alcohol counseling	10.7%	12.7%	8.0%	10.8%
Drug counseling	12.5%	11.1%	6.5%	7.3%
Day shelter services	16.2%	14.7%	11.7%	17.2%
Legal assistance	3.1%	1.9%	2.4%	3.9%
Other	4.2%	3.6%	8.7%	4.7%
Not currently using any services/assistance	19.1%	16.3%	19.9%	19.4%
Total Cases	617	361	539	232
Total Responses	1148	643	893	411

16c. If you are not receiving any assistance, why not?

Response	White / Caucasian	Black / African American	Hispanic / Latino	Other / Multi-ethnic
Have no ID	14.0%	18.6%	22.9%	19.1%
No permanent address	18.2%	18.6%	20.9%	12.4%
No transportation	15.3%	11.4%	17.3%	10.1%
Never applied	23.7%	23.6%	28.5%	20.2%
Too difficult to get to each agency	7.2%	9.3%	6.4%	9.0%
On a waiting list	5.1%	1.4%	2.8%	3.4%
Dislike hassle	24.6%	23.6%	14.9%	20.2%
Turned down	7.2%	11.4%	8.8%	10.1%
Will apply soon	14.0%	20.0%	11.6%	15.7%
Other	12.3%	11.4%	16.1%	16.9%
Total Cases	236	140	249	89
Total Responses	334	209	374	122

17. If you have children living with you, do they usually get enough food to eat?

Response	White / Caucasian	Black / African American	Hispanic / Latino	Other / Multi-ethnic
Yes	100.0%	77.8%	82.0%	83.3%
No	0.0%	22.2%	18.0%	16.7%
Total	29	27	89	36

17a. Why don't they get enough to eat?

Response	White / Caucasian	Black / African American	Hispanic / Latino	Other / Multi-ethnic
Don't know where to go	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Not enough income	0.0%	20.0%	42.9%	60.0%
No permanent address	0.0%	60.0%	28.6%	0.0%
No transportation	0.0%	40.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Custody concerns	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	20.0%
No ID	0.0%	0.0%	7.1%	0.0%
Concerns about Child Protective Services	0.0%	40.0%	0.0%	40.0%
Difficult to get Food Stamps	0.0%	20.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Other	0.0%	20.0%	21.4%	40.0%
Total Cases	0	5	14	5
Total Responses	0	10	14	8

18. If your children are old enough, are they in school?

Response	White / Caucasian	Black / African American	Hispanic / Latino	Other / Multi-ethnic
Yes	100.0%	83.3%	87.9%	80.6%
No	0.0%	16.7%	12.1%	19.4%
Total	25	24	66	31

18a. Why aren't they attending school?

Response	White / Caucasian	Black / African American	Hispanic / Latino	Other / Multi-ethnic
Embarrassment	0.0%	25.0%	0.0%	16.7%
Transportation problems	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	33.3%
Inappropriate clothing	0.0%	25.0%	12.5%	33.3%
Immigration issues	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Illness	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Custody issues	0.0%	0.0%	12.5%	0.0%
Concerns about Child Protective Services	0.0%	50.0%	12.5%	50.0%
Other	0.0%	50.0%	62.5%	16.7%
Total Cases	0	4	8	6
Total Responses	0	6	8	9

19. Where do you usually get medical attention?

Response	White / Caucasian	Black / African American	Hispanic / Latino	Other / Multi-ethnic
Hospital emergency room	29.6%	29.6%	21.7%	22.3%
Urgent care clinic	7.3%	7.8%	5.4%	4.0%
Public Health clinic	13.5%	18.4%	22.7%	16.1%
Veteran's Administration clinic	14.1%	12.6%	3.1%	6.7%
Free clinic/community clinic	20.4%	15.5%	24.4%	24.6%
Private doctor	3.7%	3.2%	5.4%	7.1%
Friends / family	0.3%	0.9%	1.5%	0.9%
Don't ever go	7.8%	9.2%	10.2%	11.6%
Don't know	0.8%	0.9%	1.9%	3.6%
Other	2.5%	2.0%	3.7%	3.1%
Total	602	348	520	224

20a. Have you experienced domestic violence?

Response	White / Caucasian	Black / African American	Hispanic / Latino	Other / Multi-ethnic
Yes	33.8%	26.5%	30.4%	42.9%
No	66.2%	73.5%	69.6%	57.1%
Total	622	366	556	238

20b. Have you experienced a physical disability?

Response	White / Caucasian	Black / African American	Hispanic / Latino	Other / Multi-ethnic
Yes	32.2%	27.6%	21.5%	23.1%
No	67.8%	72.4%	78.5%	76.9%
Total	622	366	557	238

20c. Have you experienced mental illness/depression?

Response	White / Caucasian	Black / African American	Hispanic / Latino	Other / Multi-ethnic
Yes	40.7%	35.2%	28.6%	41.6%
No	59.3%	64.8%	71.4%	58.4%
Total	621	364	556	238

20d. Have you experienced alcoholism?

Response	White / Caucasian	Black / African American	Hispanic / Latino	Other / Multi-ethnic
Yes	47.7%	47.4%	41.3%	42.9%
No	52.3%	52.6%	58.7%	57.1%
Total	622	365	557	238

20e. Have you experienced drug addiction?

Response	White / Caucasian	Black / African American	Hispanic / Latino	Other / Multi-ethnic
Yes	49.1%	49.7%	38.1%	41.6%
No	50.9%	50.3%	61.9%	58.4%
Total	621	364	557	238

20f. Have you experienced AIDS/HIV related diseases?

Response	White / Caucasian	Black / African American	Hispanic / Latino	Other / Multi-ethnic
Yes	2.7%	3.3%	2.7%	3.8%
No	97.3%	96.7%	97.3%	96.2%
Total	622	365	557	238

21. For how many days during the past 30 days was your mental health not good?

Response	White / Caucasian	Black / African American	Hispanic / Latino	Other / Multi-ethnic
0 days	35.1%	40.2%	47.7%	40.4%
1 - 7 days	18.3%	14.2%	18.8%	20.6%
8 - 14 days	12.5%	13.6%	10.2%	18.4%
15 - 21 days	12.8%	11.6%	10.2%	8.8%
22 - 30 days	21.3%	20.5%	13.1%	11.8%
Total	601	346	528	228

21a. Are you currently receiving mental health services?

Response	White / Caucasian	Black / African American	Hispanic / Latino	Other / Multi-ethnic
Yes	21.8%	15.6%	10.6%	16.7%
No	78.2%	84.4%	89.4%	83.3%
Total	559	321	490	198

22. If you drink alcoholic beverages, how many drinks do you drink on the average per day?

Response	White / Caucasian	Black / African American	Hispanic / Latino	Other / Multi-ethnic
0 drinks	53.3%	51.3%	53.6%	50.9%
1 - 5 drinks	31.5%	32.6%	30.8%	35.8%
6 - 10 drinks	9.5%	10.2%	10.3%	10.2%
11 - 15 drinks	3.5%	4.5%	2.7%	3.1%
16 - 20 drinks	1.5%	0.6%	1.1%	0.0%
21+ drinks	0.7%	0.8%	1.3%	0.0%
Total	600	353	522	226

22a. Considering all types of alcoholic beverages, how many times during the past 30 days did you have 5 or more drinks on one occasion?

Response	White / Caucasian	Black / African American	Hispanic / Latino	Other / Multi-ethnic
0 times	56.6%	54.2%	54.9%	50.4%
1 time	2.0%	2.3%	3.4%	2.7%
2 times	4.9%	3.1%	4.6%	5.4%
3 times	2.8%	3.7%	2.9%	4.9%
4 times	2.0%	2.3%	3.8%	4.9%
5+ times	31.7%	34.5%	30.4%	31.7%
Total	597	354	523	224

23. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

Response	White / Caucasian	Black / African American	Hispanic / Latino	Other / Multi-ethnic
No high school diploma	29.2%	35.3%	55.2%	35.2%
High school diploma/GED	42.1%	36.2%	31.9%	36.9%
Some college, no degree	18.9%	18.4%	9.7%	19.1%
AA degree	3.9%	5.2%	0.6%	3.4%
BA degree	4.0%	2.2%	0.6%	2.5%
Technical Certification	1.9%	2.7%	2.0%	3.0%
Total	623	365	545	236

The following questions were answered by the interviewer:

24. Gender

Response	White / Caucasian	Black / African American	Hispanic / Latino	Other / Multi-ethnic
Male	69.4%	79.0%	75.2%	64.4%
Female	30.3%	20.7%	24.8%	34.7%
Transgender	0.3%	0.3%	0.0%	0.8%
Total	624	367	556	236

25. In which language was the interview conducted?

Response	White / Caucasian	Black / African American	Hispanic / Latino	Other / Multi-ethnic
English	99.5%	99.5%	78.4%	91.2%
Spanish	0.3%	0.5%	21.6%	0.8%
Other	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	8.0%
Total	627	368	559	238

26. Did you distribute a referral card?

Response	White / Caucasian	Black / African American	Hispanic / Latino	Other / Multi-ethnic
Yes	50.2%	52.2%	64.9%	54.0%
No	49.8%	47.8%	35.1%	46.0%
Total	605	358	541	226

27. Neighborhood or city

Response	White / Caucasian	Black / African American	Hispanic / Latino	Other / Multi-ethnic
East Palo Alto	1.3%	1.9%	0.5%	0.0%
Gilroy	4.1%	4.6%	17.2%	8.4%
Milpitas	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.8%
Morgan Hills	0.3%	0.3%	1.8%	0.8%
Mountain View	0.6%	0.0%	0.9%	0.8%
Palo Alto	13.7%	12.5%	2.0%	5.5%
San Jose	75.0%	77.7%	71.6%	78.6%
San Martin	0.3%	0.8%	1.8%	1.3%
Santa Clara	2.2%	1.1%	1.4%	2.9%
Sunnyvale	2.4%	1.1%	2.9%	0.8%
Total	627	368	559	238

Santa Clara Homeless Survey: Families Results**1. AGE**

Response	Frequency	Percent
13-17 years	2	1.4%
18-22 years	16	11.1%
23-64 years	125	86.8%
More than 64 years	1	0.7%
Total	144	100.0%

2. Which racial / ethnic group do you identify with the most?

Response	Frequency	Percent
White / Caucasian	26	17.8%
Black / African American	23	15.8%
Hispanic / Latino	71	48.6%
American Indian / Alaskan Native	5	3.4%
Asian / Pacific Islander	14	9.6%
Other / Multi-ethnic	7	4.8%
Total	146	100.0%

3. Have you ever served on active duty in the United States Armed Forces, either in the regular military or in a National Guard or military reserve unit?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	8	5.4%
No	139	94.6%
Total	147	100.0%

3a. Are you a disabled veteran?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	4	50.0%
No	4	50.0%
Total	8	100.0%

4. Who do you currently live with?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Live with your child/children	91	61.9%
Live with your spouse/significant other AND child/children	56	38.1%
Total	147	100.0%

5. Do you have any children under 18 living with you?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	127	86.4%
No	20	13.6%
Total	147	100.0%

6. How many children are currently living with you?

Response	Frequency	Percent
1	51	40.2%
2	35	27.6%
3	21	16.5%
4	12	9.4%
5	5	3.9%
6	2	1.6%
7	1	0.8%
Total	127	100.0%

7. Which of the following best describes your current primary living situation?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Shelter	44	30.6%
Staying with friends/family	19	13.2%
Short term housing assistance	19	13.2%
Automobile/Van/Camper	12	8.3%
A place in a house not normally used for sleeping	10	6.9%
Hotel/Motel	9	6.3%
Staying in transitional housing	7	4.9%
Converted garage	3	2.1%
Backyard or storage structure	3	2.1%
Domestic Violence Shelter	3	2.1%
Abandoned building	2	1.4%
Mental Health Facility	1	0.7%
Outdoors	1	0.7%
Other	11	7.6%
Total	144	100.0%

7a. How would you describe your most recent experience in the shelter?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Very good	18	23.1%
Good	24	30.8%
Fair	21	26.9%
Poor	15	19.2%
Total	78	100.0%

8. In the last 30 days, have you ever tried to access a shelter or transitional housing facility in Santa Clara County and been turned away?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	19	13.2%
No	125	86.8%
Total	144	100.0%

8a. Which one were you most recently turned away from?

Response	Frequency	Percent
EHC	6	46.2%
InnVision	3	23.1%
Salvation Army	2	15.4%
Ochoa Camp	1	7.7%
Hope	1	7.7%
Total	13	100.0%

8b. Why were you turned away?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Didn't follow shelter rules	5	29.4%
Shelter had no beds available	4	23.5%
Didn't qualify	3	17.6%
Shelter didn't accept pets	3	17.6%
Shelter didn't accept friend/family	0	0.0%
Other	4	23.5%

Multiple response question with 17 respondents offering 19 responses.

9. How long have you lived in Santa Clara County?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Less than 6 months	23	15.8%
6 - 11 months	8	5.5%
1 - 2 years	17	11.6%
3 - 5 years	21	14.4%
6 - 10 years	19	13.0%
More than 10 years	58	39.7%
Total	146	100.0%

10. How long have you been homeless since your last permanent housing?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Less than 1 month	17	11.6%
2 months	20	13.7%
3 months	14	9.6%
4 months	11	7.5%
5 months	14	9.6%
6 months	14	9.6%
7 months	4	2.7%
8 months	6	4.1%
9 months	1	0.7%
10 months	2	1.4%
11 months	2	1.4%
12 months	9	6.2%
1 - 2 years	20	13.7%
3 - 5 years	9	6.2%
6 - 10 years	2	1.4%
More than 10 years	1	0.7%
Total	146	100.0%

11. Were you ever homeless prior to your current situation?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	60	40.8%
No	87	59.2%
Total	147	100.0%

11a. In the last 12 months how many times have you been homeless prior to your current situation (including this last time)?

Response	Frequency	Percent
One time	116	78.9%
2 times	12	8.2%
3 times	10	6.8%
4 times	4	2.7%
5 times	1	0.7%
More than 6 times	4	2.7%
Total	147	100.0%

12. What do you think is the primary event or condition that led to your homelessness

Response	Frequency	Percent
Unable to pay rent / mortgage	33	24.8%
Lost job (unemployment)	24	18.0%
Family violence	20	15.0%
Argument with family or friends	19	14.3%
Alcohol or drug use	11	8.3%
Released from jail or prison	6	4.5%
Divorce	4	3.0%
Emancipation from foster care	3	2.3%
Released from treatment program	2	1.5%
Illness or medical problem	2	1.5%
Mental health issues	2	1.5%
Other	7	5.3%
Total	133	100.0%

13. Were you ever in foster care?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	28	19.4%
No	116	80.6%
Total	144	100.0%

14. What is your gross monthly income from all government sources?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Zero	43	29.3%
Under \$100	1	0.7%
\$101 - \$200	4	2.7%
\$201 - \$300	6	4.1%
\$301 - \$400	9	6.1%
\$401 - \$500	12	8.2%
\$501 - \$600	29	19.7%
\$601 - \$700	17	11.6%
\$701 - \$800	10	6.8%
\$801 - \$900	2	1.4%
\$901 - \$1000	6	4.1%
Over \$1000	8	5.4%
Total	147	100.0%

14a. What is your gross monthly income from all other sources?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Zero	61	41.8%
Under \$100	11	7.5%
\$101 - \$200	8	5.5%
\$201 - \$300	17	11.6%
\$301 - \$400	7	4.8%
\$401 - \$500	7	4.8%
\$501 - \$600	10	6.8%
\$601 - \$700	1	0.7%
\$701 - \$800	5	3.4%
\$801 - \$900	1	0.7%
\$901 - \$1000	7	4.8%
Over \$1000	11	7.5%
Total	146	100.0%

15. Are you currently employed?

Response	Frequency	Percent
No, unemployed	100	68.0%
Yes, part time	33	22.4%
Yes, full time	14	9.5%
Total	147	100.0%

15a. Why aren't you employed?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Need training	26	27.4%
Need education	21	22.1%
Health problems	19	20.0%
No transportation	18	18.9%
No jobs	17	17.9%
No permanent address	13	13.7%
Need clothing	7	7.4%
No phone	6	6.3%
No shower facilities	4	4.2%
No tools for trade	4	4.2%
No work permit	4	4.2%
Don't want to work	4	4.2%
Other	21	22.1%

Multiple response question with 95 respondents offering 164 responses.

16. Are you currently receiving any of the following forms of government assistance?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Cash Aid (TANF or Welfare) CalWORKS	67	46.2%
Food Stamps	65	44.8%
Medi-Cal	65	44.8%
General Relief	16	11.0%
SSI (Supplemental Security Income) / SSDI	12	8.3%
Veteran's Benefits	3	2.1%
I am not currently receiving any of these	32	22.1%

Multiple response question with 145 respondents offering 260 responses.

16a. If you are not receiving any government assistance, why not?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Have no ID	5	11.9%
Never applied	5	11.9%
Don't need government assistance	5	11.9%
Don't think I'm eligible	5	11.9%
Benefits were eliminated	4	9.5%
Turned down	4	9.5%
Will apply soon	4	9.5%
Dislike hassle	2	4.8%
No permanent address	1	2.4%
Waiting for approval	1	2.4%
Too difficult to get to each agency	1	2.4%
No transportation	0	0.0%
Other	10	23.8%

Multiple response question with 42 respondents offering 47 responses.

16b. Are you currently using any of the following services/ assistance?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Free meals	63	43.4%
Emergency shelter	58	40.0%
Bus passes	49	33.8%
Day shelter services	32	22.1%
Job training	25	17.2%
Drug counseling	13	9.0%
Alcohol counseling	11	7.6%
Legal assistance	6	4.1%
Other	20	13.8%
Not currently using any services/assistance	14	9.7%

Multiple response question with 145 respondents offering 291 responses.

16c. If you are not receiving any assistance, why not?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Never applied	8	26.7%
No transportation	5	16.7%
Turned down	5	16.7%
Have no ID	4	13.3%
Dislike hassle	4	13.3%
Will apply soon	3	10.0%
No permanent address	1	3.3%
Too difficult to get to each agency	1	3.3%
On a waiting list	1	3.3%
Other	5	16.7%

Multiple response question with 30 respondents offering 37 responses.

17. If you have children living with you, do they usually get enough food to eat?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	114	89.1%
No	14	10.9%
Total	128	100.0%

17a. Why don't they get enough to eat?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Not enough income	6	50.0%
No permanent address	4	33.3%
Concerns about Child Protective Services	2	16.7%
No transportation	1	8.3%
Custody concerns	1	8.3%
Don't know where to go	0	0.0%
No ID	0	0.0%
Difficult to get Food Stamps	0	0.0%
Other	2	16.7%

Multiple response question with 12 respondents offering 16 responses.

18. If your children are old enough, are they in school?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	90	90.0%
No	10	10.0%
Total	100	100.0%

18a. Why aren't they attending school?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Inappropriate clothing	4	40.0%
Concerns about Child Protective Services	3	30.0%
Embarrassment	2	20.0%
Transportation problems	2	20.0%
Immigration issues	0	0.0%
Illness	0	0.0%
Custody issues	0	0.0%
Other	4	40.0%

Multiple response question with 10 respondents offering 15 responses.

19. Where do you usually get medical attention?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Public Health clinic	35	25.9%
Private doctor	32	23.7%
Free clinic/community clinic	23	17.0%
Hospital emergency room	19	14.1%
Urgent care clinic	15	11.1%
Don't ever go	7	5.2%
Veteran's Administration clinic	2	1.5%
Don't know	1	0.7%
Other	1	0.7%
Total	135	100.0%

20a. Have you experienced domestic violence?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	86	58.9%
No	60	41.1%
Total	146	100.0%

20b. Have you experienced a physical disability?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	29	19.9%
No	117	80.1%
Total	146	100.0%

20c. Have you experienced mental illness/depression?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	62	42.5%
No	84	57.5%
Total	146	100.0%

20d. Have you experienced alcoholism?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	50	34.2%
No	96	65.8%
Total	146	100.0%

20e. Have you experienced drug addiction?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	47	32.2%
No	99	67.8%
Total	146	100.0%

20f. Have you experienced AIDS/HIV related diseases?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	6	4.1%
No	140	95.9%
Total	146	100.0%

21. For how many days during the past 30 days was your mental health not good?

Response	Frequency	Percent
0 days	53	37.6%
1 - 7 days	30	21.3%
8 - 14 days	28	19.9%
15 - 21 days	16	11.3%
22 - 30 days	14	9.9%
Total	141	100.0%

21a. Are you currently receiving mental health services?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	25	19.5%
No	103	80.5%
Total	128	100.0%

22. If you drink alcoholic beverages, how many drinks do you drink on the average per day?

Response	Frequency	Percent
0 drinks	96	68.1%
1 - 5 drinks	42	29.8%
6 - 10 drinks	2	1.4%
11 - 15 drinks	1	0.7%
Total	141	100.0%

22a. Considering all types of alcoholic beverages, how many times during the past 30 days did you have 5 or more drinks on one occasion?

Response	Frequency	Percent
0 times	98	71.0%
1 time	0	0.0%
2 times	5	3.6%
3 times	10	7.2%
4 times	6	4.3%
5+ times	19	13.8%
Total	138	100.0%

23. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

Response	Frequency	Percent
No high school diploma	64	44.4%
High school diploma/GED	50	34.7%
Some college, no degree	21	14.6%
AA degree	4	2.8%
BA degree	1	0.7%
Technical Certification	4	2.8%
Total	144	100.0%

The following questions were answered by the interviewer:

24. Gender

Response	Frequency	Percent
Male	48	33.3%
Female	96	66.7%
Total	144	100.0%

25. In which language was the interview conducted?

Response	Frequency	Percent
English	120	81.6%
Spanish	21	14.3%
Other	6	4.1%
Total	147	100.0%

26. Did you distribute a referral card?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	112	76.7%
No	34	23.3%
Total	146	100.0%

27. Neighborhood or city

Response	Frequency	Percent
Gilroy	36	24.5%
Morgan Hills	2	1.4%
Mountain View	2	1.4%
Palo Alto	8	5.4%
San Jose	86	58.5%
San Martin	10	6.8%
Sunnyvale	3	2.0%
Total	147	100.0%

Santa Clara Homeless Survey: Veteran's Results**1. AGE**

Response	Frequency	Percent
18-22 years	3	0.9%
23-64 years	325	95.0%
More than 64 years	14	4.1%
Total	342	100.0%

2. Which racial / ethnic group do you identify with the most?

Response	Frequency	Percent
White / Caucasian	165	47.8%
Black / African American	88	25.5%
Hispanic / Latino	52	15.1%
American Indian / Alaskan Native	16	4.6%
Asian / Pacific Islander	10	2.9%
Other / Multi-ethnic	14	4.1%
Total	345	100.0%

3. Have you ever served on active duty in the United States Armed Forces, either in the regular military or in a National Guard or military reserve unit?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	345	100.0%
Total	345	100.0%

3a. Are you a disabled veteran?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	145	42.4%
No	197	57.6%
Total	342	100.0%

4. Who do you currently live with?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Live alone	290	84.3%
Live with spouse or significant other	27	7.8%
Live with your child/children	4	1.2%
Live with your spouse/significant other AND child/children	4	1.2%
Other	19	5.5%
Total	344	100.0%

5. Do you have any children under 18 living with you?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	19	5.7%
No	316	94.3%
Total	335	100.0%

6. How many children are currently living with you?

Response	Frequency	Percent
1	6	31.6%
2	9	47.4%
3	2	10.5%
4	1	5.3%
5	1	5.3%
Total	19	100.0%

7. Which of the following best describes your current primary living situation?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Shelter	118	35.9%
Outdoors	70	21.3%
Staying with friends/family	29	8.8%
Automobile/Van/Camper	24	7.3%
Short term housing assistance	18	5.5%
Hotel/Motel	15	4.6%
Staying in transitional housing	12	3.6%
Abandoned building	8	2.4%
Mental Health Facility	7	2.1%
Converted garage	6	1.8%
A place in a house not normally used for sleeping	5	1.5%
Backyard or storage structure	1	0.3%
Domestic Violence Shelter	1	0.3%
Other	15	4.6%
Total	329	100.0%

7a. How would you describe your most recent experience in the shelter?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Very good	38	19.1%
Good	71	35.7%
Fair	64	32.2%
Poor	26	13.1%
Total	199	100.0%

8. In the last 30 days, have you ever tried to access a shelter or transitional housing facility in Santa Clara County and been turned away?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	46	13.8%
No	288	86.2%
Total	334	100.0%

8a. Which one were you most recently turned away from?

Response	Frequency	Percent
EHC	12	35.3%
InnVision	5	14.7%
Salvation Army	5	14.7%
City Team	5	14.7%
Julian St. Inn	2	5.9%
Clara-Mateo	1	2.9%
Hotel Dezink	1	2.9%
V.A.	1	2.9%
Mission	1	2.9%
Armory - Sunnyvale	1	2.9%
Total	34	100.0%

8b. Why were you turned away?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Didn't qualify	6	13.6%
Didn't follow shelter rules	8	18.2%
Shelter had no beds available	23	52.3%
Shelter didn't accept friend/family	1	2.3%
Shelter didn't accept pets	3	6.8%
Other	8	18.2%

Multiple response question with 44 respondents offering 49 responses.

9. How long have you lived in Santa Clara County?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Less than 6 months	57	16.7%
6 - 11 months	25	7.3%
1 - 2 years	47	13.7%
3 - 5 years	36	10.5%
6 - 10 years	40	11.7%
More than 10 years	137	40.1%
Total	342	100.0%

10. How long have you been homeless since your last permanent housing?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Less than 1 month	31	9.0%
2 months	20	5.8%
3 months	20	5.8%
4 months	18	5.2%
5 months	8	2.3%
6 months	32	9.3%
7 months	7	2.0%
8 months	8	2.3%
9 months	7	2.0%
10 months	11	3.2%
11 months	6	1.7%
12 months	16	4.7%
1 - 2 years	63	18.4%
3 - 5 years	43	12.5%
6 - 10 years	24	7.0%
More than 10 years	29	8.5%
Total	343	100.0%

11. Were you ever homeless prior to your current situation?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	188	54.5%
No	157	45.5%
Total	345	100.0%

11a. In the last 12 months how many times have you been homeless prior to your current situation (including this last time)?

Response	Frequency	Percent
One time	235	68.1%
2 times	41	11.9%
3 times	27	7.8%
4 times	6	1.7%
5 times	3	0.9%
6 times	4	1.2%
More than 6 times	29	8.4%
Total	345	100.0%

12. What do you think is the primary event or condition that led to your homelessness

Response	Frequency	Percent
Alcohol or drug use	72	24.8%
Lost job (unemployment)	40	13.8%
Unable to pay rent / mortgage	39	13.4%
Released from jail or prison	29	10.0%
Mental health issues	23	7.9%
Illness or medical problem	22	7.6%
Argument with family or friends	21	7.2%
Divorce	14	4.8%
Released from treatment program	10	3.4%
Family violence	4	1.4%
Released from hospital	1	0.3%
Emancipation from foster care	1	0.3%
Other	14	4.8%
Total	290	100.0%

13. Were you ever in foster care?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	53	15.5%
No	288	84.5%
Total	341	100.0%

14. What is your gross monthly income from all government sources?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Zero	166	48.7%
Under \$100	6	1.8%
\$101 - \$200	15	4.4%
\$201 - \$300	12	3.5%
\$301 - \$400	16	4.7%
\$401 - \$500	10	2.9%
\$501 - \$600	13	3.8%
\$601 - \$700	13	3.8%
\$701 - \$800	19	5.6%
\$801 - \$900	31	9.1%
\$901 - \$1000	8	2.3%
Over \$1000	32	9.4%
Total	341	100.0%

14a. What is your gross monthly income from all other sources?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Zero	178	52.5%
Under \$100	48	14.2%
\$101 - \$200	21	6.2%
\$201 - \$300	29	8.6%
\$301 - \$400	13	3.8%
\$401 - \$500	15	4.4%
\$501 - \$600	5	1.5%
\$601 - \$700	3	0.9%
\$701 - \$800	2	0.6%
\$801 - \$900	9	2.7%
\$901 - \$1000	3	0.9%
Over \$1000	13	3.8%
Total	339	100.0%

15. Are you currently employed?

Response	Frequency	Percent
No, unemployed	293	84.9%
Yes, part time	36	10.4%
Yes, full time	16	4.6%
Total	345	100.0%

15a. Why aren't you employed?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Health problems	119	41.0%
No permanent address	67	23.1%
No jobs	61	21.0%
No transportation	58	20.0%
No phone	38	13.1%
Need clothing	32	11.0%
Need training	24	8.3%
Don't want to work	24	8.3%
Need education	23	7.9%
No tools for trade	23	7.9%
No shower facilities	18	6.2%
No work permit	6	2.1%
Other	53	18.3%

Multiple response question with 290 respondents offering 546 responses.

16. Are you currently receiving any of the following forms of government assistance?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Veteran's Benefits	85	25.0%
Food Stamps	42	12.4%
SSI (Supplemental Security Income) / SSDI	41	12.1%
General Relief	31	9.1%
Medi-Cal	14	4.1%
Cash Aid (TANF or Welfare) CalWORKS	6	1.8%
I am not currently receiving any of these	163	47.9%

Multiple response question with 340 respondents offering 382 responses.

16a. If you are not receiving any government assistance, why not?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Never applied	51	27.3%
Dislike hassle	33	17.6%
No transportation	24	12.8%
Turned down	21	11.2%
Don't think I'm eligible	18	9.6%
Don't need government assistance	16	8.6%
Have no ID	14	7.5%
Will apply soon	14	7.5%
No permanent address	12	6.4%
Benefits were eliminated	10	5.3%
Waiting for approval	9	4.8%
Too difficult to get to each agency	5	2.7%
Other	30	16.0%

Multiple response question with 187 respondents offering 257 responses.

16b. Are you currently using any of the following services/ assistance?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Free meals	203	60.1%
Emergency shelter	157	46.4%
Bus passes	57	16.9%
Alcohol counseling	54	16.0%
Drug counseling	51	15.1%
Day shelter services	51	15.1%
Job training	14	4.1%
Legal assistance	12	3.6%
Other	18	5.3%
Not currently using any services/assistance	48	14.2%

Multiple response question with 338 respondents offering 665 responses.

16c. If you are not receiving any assistance, why not?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Dislike hassle	34	28.8%
Never applied	29	24.6%
No permanent address	20	16.9%
No transportation	16	13.6%
Will apply soon	15	12.7%
Turned down	14	11.9%
Have no ID	12	10.2%
Too difficult to get to each agency	8	6.8%
On a waiting list	4	3.4%
Other	18	15.3%

Multiple response question with 118 respondents offering 170 responses.

17. If you have children living with you, do they usually get enough food to eat?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	14	73.7%
No	5	26.3%
Total	19	100.0%

17a. Why don't they get enough to eat?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Not enough income	1	25.0%
Concerns about Child Protective Services	1	25.0%
Don't know where to go	0	0.0%
No permanent address	0	0.0%
No transportation	0	0.0%
Custody concerns	0	0.0%
No ID	0	0.0%
Difficult to get Food Stamps	0	0.0%
Other	2	50.0%

Multiple response question with 4 respondents offering 4 responses.

18. If your children are old enough, are they in school?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	14	87.5%
No	2	12.5%
Total	16	100.0%

18a. Why aren't they attending school?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Embarrassment	1	50.0%
Inappropriate clothing	1	50.0%
Concerns about Child Protective Services	1	50.0%
Transportation problems	0	0.0%
Immigration issues	0	0.0%
Illness	0	0.0%
Custody issues	0	0.0%
Other	1	50.0%

Multiple response question with 2 respondents offering 4 responses.

19. Where do you usually get medical attention?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Veteran's Administration clinic	154	47.1%
Hospital emergency room	64	19.6%
Free clinic/community clinic	38	11.6%
Public Health clinic	27	8.3%
Don't ever go	17	5.2%
Urgent care clinic	10	3.1%
Private doctor	5	1.5%
Friends / family	1	0.3%
Other	11	3.4%
Total	327	100.0%

20a. Have you experienced domestic violence?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	90	26.1%
No	255	73.9%
Total	345	100.0%

20b. Have you experienced a physical disability?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	157	45.5%
No	188	54.5%
Total	345	100.0%

20c. Have you experienced mental illness/depression?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	172	50.1%
No	171	49.9%
Total	343	100.0%

20d. Have you experienced alcoholism?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	188	54.7%
No	156	45.3%
Total	344	100.0%

20e. Have you experienced drug addiction?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	161	46.9%
No	182	53.1%
Total	343	100.0%

20f. Have you experienced AIDS/HIV related diseases?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	10	2.9%
No	335	97.1%
Total	345	100.0%

21. For how many days during the past 30 days was your mental health not good?

Response	Frequency	Percent
0 days	111	33.6%
1 - 7 days	44	13.3%
8 - 14 days	45	13.6%
15 - 21 days	43	13.0%
22 - 30 days	87	26.4%
Total	330	100.0%

21a. Are you currently receiving mental health services?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	96	31.1%
No	213	68.9%
Total	309	100.0%

22. If you drink alcoholic beverages, how many drinks do you drink on the average per day?

Response	Frequency	Percent
0 drinks	183	54.0%
1 - 5 drinks	93	27.4%
6 - 10 drinks	41	12.1%
11 - 15 drinks	14	4.1%
16 - 20 drinks	4	1.2%
21+ drinks	4	1.2%
Total	339	100.0%

22a. Considering all types of alcoholic beverages, how many times during the past 30 days did you have 5 or more drinks on one occasion?

Response	Frequency	Percent
0 times	197	58.3%
1 time	8	2.4%
2 times	14	4.1%
3 times	4	1.2%
4 times	8	2.4%
5+ times	107	31.7%
Total	338	100.0%

23. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

Response	Frequency	Percent
No high school diploma	60	17.5%
High school diploma/GED	146	42.6%
Some college, no degree	81	23.6%
AA degree	27	7.9%
BA degree	20	5.8%
Technical Certification	9	2.6%
Total	343	100.0%

The following questions were answered by the interviewer:

24. Gender

Response	Frequency	Percent
Male	318	92.4%
Female	26	7.6%
Total	344	100.0%

25. In which language was the interview conducted?

Response	Frequency	Percent
English	336	97.4%
Spanish	7	2.0%
Other	2	0.6%
Total	345	100.0%

26. Did you distribute a referral card?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	177	52.5%
No	160	47.5%
Total	337	100.0%

27. Neighborhood or city

Response	Frequency	Percent
East Palo Alto	10	2.9%
Gilroy	17	4.9%
Milpitas	2	0.6%
Morgan Hills	3	0.9%
Mountain View	2	0.6%
Palo Alto	87	25.2%
San Jose	212	61.4%
San Martin	2	0.6%
Santa Clara	4	1.2%
Sunnyvale	6	1.7%
Total	345	100.0%

Santa Clara Homeless Survey: Sheltered – Unsheltered Results**AGE**

Response	Unsheltered	Sheltered
Less than 13 years	0.0%	0.2%
13-17 years	0.3%	1.0%
18-22 years	3.7%	10.1%
23-64 years	93.9%	87.3%
More than 64 years	2.0%	1.4%
Total	590	1069

2. Which racial / ethnic group do you identify with the most?

Response	Unsheltered	Sheltered
White / Caucasian	39.4%	32.8%
Black / African American	19.5%	21.7%
Hispanic / Latino	28.9%	31.6%
American Indian / Alaskan Native	3.9%	3.3%
Asian / Pacific Islander	3.7%	4.9%
Other / Multi-ethnic	4.6%	5.6%
Total	591	1081

3. Have you ever served on active duty in the United States Armed Forces, either in the regular military or in a National Guard or military reserve unit?

Response	Unsheltered	Sheltered
Yes	17.5%	19.8%
No	82.5%	80.2%
Total	590	1079

3a. Are you a disabled veteran?

Response	Unsheltered	Sheltered
Yes	42.7%	41.0%
No	57.3%	59.0%
Total	103	212

3a. Are you a disabled veteran?

Response	Unsheltered	Sheltered
Yes	42.7%	41.0%
No	57.3%	59.0%
Total	103	212

4. Who do you currently live with?

Response	Unsheltered	Sheltered
Live alone	83.6%	71.3%
Live with spouse or significant other	9.8%	11.3%
Live with your child/children	2.0%	6.8%
Live with your spouse/significant other AND child/children	1.0%	4.0%
Other	3.6%	6.7%
Total	590	1081

5. Do you have any children under 18 living with you?

Response	Unsheltered	Sheltered
Yes	4.0%	13.6%
No	96.0%	86.4%
Total	580	1076

6. How many children are currently living with you?

Response	Unsheltered	Sheltered
1	60.9%	45.2%
2	13.0%	31.5%
3	21.7%	11.6%
4	4.3%	7.5%
5	0.0%	2.1%
6	0.0%	1.4%
7	0.0%	0.7%
Total	23	146

7. Which of the following best describes your current primary living situation?

Response	Unsheltered	Sheltered
Staying with friends/family	0.0%	22.5%
Short term housing assistance	0.0%	8.3%
Automobile/Van/Camper	24.8%	0.0%
Converted garage	0.0%	3.8%
Backyard or storage structure	3.4%	0.0%
Staying in transitional housing	0.0%	5.7%
Domestic Violence Shelter	0.0%	1.2%
Mental Health Facility	0.0%	1.4%
Outdoors	65.0%	0.0%
Hotel/Motel	0.0%	7.8%
Abandoned building	6.8%	0.0%
A place in a house not normally used for sleeping	0.0%	3.8%
Shelter	0.0%	45.4%
Total	592	1067

7a. How would you describe your most recent experience in the shelter?

Response	Unsheltered	Sheltered
Very good	5.6%	17.3%
Good	20.0%	37.9%
Fair	40.0%	31.6%
Poor	34.4%	13.2%
Total	160	692

8. In the last 30 days, have you ever tried to access a shelter or transitional housing facility in Santa Clara County and been turned away?

Response	Unsheltered	Sheltered
Yes	16.2%	12.2%
No	83.8%	87.8%
Total	569	1065

8a. Which one were you most recently turned away from?

Response	Unsheltered	Sheltered
InnVision	15.8%	18.2%
Salvation Army	11.8%	13.1%
Clara-Mateo	1.3%	1.0%
Mariposa	1.3%	0.0%
Julian St. Inn	3.9%	0.0%
City Team	10.5%	7.1%
EHC	35.5%	39.4%
Horizon	1.3%	0.0%
Georgia Travis	0.0%	2.0%
Hotel Dezink	1.3%	1.0%
Pathway	1.3%	1.0%
V.A.	1.3%	0.0%
Mission	1.3%	0.0%
Armory - Gilroy	1.3%	2.0%
Sacred Heart	1.3%	0.0%
Armory - Sunnyvale	6.6%	3.0%
Family Supportive Housing	0.0%	2.0%
Ochoa Camp	0.0%	2.0%
The White Inn	0.0%	2.0%
Hope	0.0%	1.0%
CHAM	0.0%	1.0%
Church in Palo Alto	0.0%	1.0%
CAPS	1.3%	0.0%
Lafayette	1.3%	0.0%
Maple Street	.0%	1.0%
St. Joseph's Worker House	1.3%	0.0%
Casa Say	0.0%	1.0%
Labor Ready	0.0%	1.0%
Total	76	99

8b. Why were you turned away?

Response	Unsheltered	Sheltered
Didn't qualify	11.2%	15.6%
Didn't follow shelter rules	14.6%	18.9%
Shelter had no beds available	56.2%	50.8%
Shelter didn't accept friend/family	1.1%	.0%
Shelter didn't accept pets	3.4%	6.6%
Other	22.5%	13.1%
Total Cases	89	122
Total Responses	97	128

9. How long have you lived in Santa Clara County?

Response	Unsheltered	Sheltered
Less than 6 months	8.7%	13.4%
6 - 11 months	4.8%	7.6%
1 - 2 years	14.0%	11.8%
3 - 5 years	13.1%	14.5%
6 - 10 years	14.8%	11.5%
More than 10 years	44.5%	41.1%
Total	586	1074

10. How long have you been homeless since your last permanent housing?

Response	Unsheltered	Sheltered
Less than 1 month	5.9%	11.0%
2 months	4.4%	8.8%
3 months	4.1%	7.9%
4 months	3.4%	6.4%
5 months	3.4%	4.7%
6 months	6.1%	9.3%
7 months	2.0%	3.5%
8 months	3.7%	3.2%
9 months	1.9%	2.6%
10 months	3.1%	1.9%
11 months	1.7%	2.9%
12 months	4.7%	4.9%
1 - 2 years	24.4%	16.3%
3 - 5 years	15.1%	10.3%
6 - 10 years	7.3%	3.4%
More than 10 years	8.8%	2.8%
Total	590	1075

11. Were you ever homeless prior to your current situation?

Response	Unsheltered	Sheltered
Yes	47.5%	41.3%
No	52.5%	58.7%
Total	592	1082

11a. In the last 12 months how many times have you been homeless prior to your current situation (including this last time)?

Response	Unsheltered	Sheltered
One time	67.6%	75.5%
2 times	9.6%	11.0%
3 times	10.5%	6.2%
4 times	1.9%	1.6%
5 times	1.5%	1.6%
6 times	1.0%	0.6%
More than 6 times	7.9%	3.6%
Total	592	1082

12. What do you think is the primary event or condition that led to your homelessness

Response	Unsheltered	Sheltered
Argument with family or friends	9.7%	14.6%
Released from treatment program	1.3%	1.8%
Illness or medical problem	5.3%	3.7%
Unable to pay rent / mortgage	16.7%	14.0%
Alcohol or drug use	23.1%	18.6%
Released from jail or prison	8.2%	11.9%
Released from hospital	0.2%	0.4%
Emancipation from foster care	0.6%	0.8%
Mental health issues	6.3%	3.9%
Lost job (unemployment)	17.8%	16.8%
Family violence	2.3%	5.4%
Divorce	3.4%	3.2%
Other	5.1%	4.8%
Total	527	974

13. Were you ever in foster care?

Response	Unsheltered	Sheltered
Yes	13.1%	16.7%
No	86.9%	83.3%
Total	578	1074

14. What is your gross monthly income from all government sources?

Response	Unsheltered	Sheltered
Zero	65.5%	52.8%
Under \$100	2.6%	2.3%
\$101 - \$200	5.5%	8.2%
\$201 - \$300	5.3%	5.1%
\$301 - \$400	2.6%	5.8%
\$401 - \$500	2.4%	3.5%
\$501 - \$600	3.6%	5.0%
\$601 - \$700	1.9%	3.6%
\$701 - \$800	4.8%	4.9%
\$801 - \$900	2.9%	3.7%
\$901 - \$1000	1.2%	1.6%
Over \$1000	1.9%	3.6%
Total	585	1070

14a. What is your gross monthly income from all other sources?

Response	Unsheltered	Sheltered
Zero	41.5%	52.1%
Under \$100	19.0%	12.6%
\$101 - \$200	12.7%	7.5%
\$201 - \$300	10.3%	7.1%
\$301 - \$400	6.9%	4.4%
\$401 - \$500	4.3%	3.4%
\$501 - \$600	1.7%	2.0%
\$601 - \$700	0.3%	1.5%
\$701 - \$800	1.0%	2.7%
\$801 - \$900	1.2%	1.5%
\$901 - \$1000	0.2%	1.7%
Over \$1000	0.9%	3.5%
Total	583	1073

15. Are you currently employed?

Response	Unsheltered	Sheltered
No, unemployed	87.6%	78.5%
Yes, part time	10.0%	15.0%
Yes, full time	2.4%	6.6%
Total	591	1083

15a. Why aren't you employed?

Response	Unsheltered	Sheltered
Need education	14.3%	11.6%
Need training	15.8%	13.3%
Need clothing	15.8%	8.8%
No shower facilities	13.3%	2.5%
No phone	18.9%	12.6%
Health problems	25.6%	23.8%
No permanent address	28.7%	19.1%
No transportation	23.0%	21.3%
No tools for trade	8.4%	5.8%
No work permit	6.6%	3.0%
Don't want to work	16.4%	8.3%
No jobs	22.9%	25.6%
Other	12.1%	16.2%
Total Cases	512	839
Total Responses	1136	1444

16. Are you currently receiving any of the following forms of government assistance?

Response	Unsheltered	Sheltered
General Relief	11.3%	12.7%
Food Stamps	12.9%	21.0%
Medi-Cal	7.5%	13.1%
Veteran's Benefits	4.0%	5.9%
SSI (Supplemental Security Income) / SSDI	11.1%	10.7%
Cash Aid (TANF or Welfare) CalWORKS	2.8%	8.5%
I am not currently receiving any of these	66.6%	52.4%
Total Cases	575	1065
Total Responses	668	1325

16a. If you are not receiving any government assistance, why not?

Response	Unsheltered	Sheltered
Have no ID	21.8%	12.0%
No transportation	21.3%	11.5%
No permanent address	8.4%	7.8%
Never applied	23.4%	21.6%
Waiting for approval	2.6%	7.5%
Benefits were eliminated	2.6%	3.2%
Dislike hassle	22.7%	12.3%
Turned down	6.7%	7.7%
Will apply soon	5.7%	12.1%
Don't need government assistance	6.0%	9.1%
Don't think I'm eligible	11.2%	12.3%
Too difficult to get to each agency	9.3%	4.0%
Other	11.2%	13.9%
Total Cases	418	626
Total Responses	640	845

16b. Are you currently using any of the following services/ assistance?

Response	Unsheltered	Sheltered
Emergency shelter	13.8%	46.1%
Free meals	64.1%	53.1%
Bus passes	9.5%	21.9%
Job training	2.1%	8.5%
Alcohol counseling	7.2%	12.3%
Drug counseling	3.5%	12.7%
Day shelter services	15.6%	15.0%
Legal assistance	1.8%	3.2%
Other	3.9%	6.4%
Not currently using any services/assistance	22.6%	16.9%
Total Cases	571	1068
Total Responses	822	2093

16c. If you are not receiving any assistance, why not?

Response	Unsheltered	Sheltered
Have no ID	23.0%	15.4%
No permanent address	26.4%	14.4%
No transportation	15.6%	13.6%
Never applied	19.7%	28.5%
Too difficult to get to each agency	8.9%	6.5%
On a waiting list	4.1%	3.1%
Dislike hassle	23.4%	18.8%
Turned down	9.3%	7.6%
Will apply soon	12.3%	16.5%
Other	11.5%	13.9%
Total Cases	269	382
Total Responses	415	529

17. If you have children living with you, do they usually get enough food to eat?

Response	Unsheltered	Sheltered
Yes	68.2%	86.7%
No	31.8%	13.3%
Total	22	143

17a. Why don't they get enough to eat?

Response	Unsheltered	Sheltered
Don't know where to go	.0%	.0%
Not enough income	50.0%	41.2%
No permanent address	16.7%	35.3%
No transportation	16.7%	5.9%
Custody concerns	16.7%	.0%
No ID	16.7%	.0%
Concerns about Child Protective Services	33.3%	11.8%
Difficult to get Food Stamps	16.7%	.0%
Other	33.3%	17.6%
Total Cases	6	17
Total Responses	12	19

18. If your children are old enough, are they in school?

Response	Unsheltered	Sheltered
Yes	90.0%	85.6%
No	10.0%	14.4%
Total	20	111

18a. Why aren't they attending school?

Response	Unsheltered	Sheltered
Embarrassment	50.0%	6.3%
Transportation problems	50.0%	6.3%
Inappropriate clothing	50.0%	18.8%
Immigration issues	0.0%	0.0%
Illness	0.0%	0.0%
Custody issues	0.0%	6.3%
Concerns about Child Protective Services	50.0%	31.3%
Other	50.0%	43.8%
Total Cases	2	16
Total Responses	5	18

19. Where do you usually get medical attention?

Response	Unsheltered	Sheltered
Hospital emergency room	29.4%	24.3%
Urgent care clinic	4.6%	7.4%
Public Health clinic	15.1%	19.2%
Veteran's Administration clinic	6.9%	10.7%
Free clinic/community clinic	22.7%	20.5%
Private doctor	2.1%	6.1%
Friends / family	0.7%	1.1%
Don't ever go	14.4%	6.7%
Don't know	1.6%	1.7%
Other	2.5%	2.3%
Total	564	1029

20a. Have you experienced domestic violence?

Response	Unsheltered	Sheltered
Yes	28.0%	34.1%
No	72.0%	65.9%
Total	590	1075

20b. Have you experienced a physical disability?

Response	Unsheltered	Sheltered
Yes	27.1%	25.3%
No	72.9%	74.7%
Total	590	1076

20c. Have you experienced mental illness/depression?

Response	Unsheltered	Sheltered
Yes	35.3%	35.9%
No	64.7%	64.1%
Total	589	1073

20d. Have you experienced alcoholism?

Response	Unsheltered	Sheltered
Yes	49.2%	42.5%
No	50.8%	57.5%
Total	590	1075

20e. Have you experienced drug addiction?

Response	Unsheltered	Sheltered
Yes	42.9%	45.4%
No	57.1%	54.6%
Total	588	1075

20f. Have you experienced AIDS/HIV related diseases?

Response	Unsheltered	Sheltered
Yes	2.9%	3.1%
No	97.1%	96.9%
Total	589	1076

21. For how many days during the past 30 days was your mental health not good?

Response	Unsheltered	Sheltered
0 days	39.6%	41.3%
1 - 7 days	14.8%	19.7%
8 - 14 days	15.5%	11.8%
15 - 21 days	10.8%	11.1%
22 - 30 days	19.3%	16.1%
Total	566	1026

21a. Are you currently receiving mental health services?

Response	Unsheltered	Sheltered
Yes	10.7%	19.7%
No	89.3%	80.3%
Total	516	947

22. If you drink alcoholic beverages, how many drinks do you drink on the average per day? (Banded)

Response	Unsheltered	Sheltered
0 drinks	37.6%	61.3%
1 - 5 drinks	39.2%	28.2%
6 - 10 drinks	14.3%	7.3%
11 - 15 drinks	4.8%	2.4%
16 - 20 drinks	2.2%	0.4%
21+ drinks	1.8%	0.4%
Total	558	1036

**22a. Considering all types of alcoholic beverages, how many times during the past 30 days did you have 5 or more drinks on one occasion?
(Banded)**

Response	Unsheltered	Sheltered
0 times	38.0%	64.8%
1 time	3.6%	2.0%
2 times	5.0%	4.2%
3 times	3.4%	2.8%
4 times	3.0%	3.1%
5+ times	47.1%	23.1%
Total	563	1027

23. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

Response	Unsheltered	Sheltered
No high school diploma	46.1%	35.7%
High school diploma/GED	32.1%	39.5%
Some college, no degree	14.3%	16.9%
AA degree	2.9%	3.3%
BA degree	2.7%	2.2%
Technical Certification	1.9%	2.3%
Total	586	1070

The following questions were answered by the interviewer:

24. Gender

Response	Unsheltered	Sheltered
Male	79.2%	68.0%
Female	20.3%	31.9%
Transgender	0.5%	0.2%
Total	587	1080

25. In which language was the interview conducted?

Response	Unsheltered	Sheltered
English	93.1%	91.6%
Spanish	6.4%	7.0%
Other	0.5%	1.4%
Total	592	1084

26. Did you distribute a referral card?

Response	Unsheltered	Sheltered
Yes	55.5%	54.6%
No	44.5%	45.4%
Total	569	1047

27. Neighborhood or city

Response	Unsheltered	Sheltered
East Palo Alto	1.2%	1.0%
Gilroy	7.3%	9.7%
Milpitas	0.0%	0.1%
Morgan Hill	0.5%	0.9%
Mountain	0.2%	0.7%
Palo Alto	5.2%	10.3%
San Jose	80.6%	72.6%
San Martin	0.5%	1.4%
Santa Clara	1.9%	1.8%
Sunnyvale	2.7%	1.4%
Total	592	1084

Cross-Tabulations**Age by Ranks**

Age	Frequency	Percent
Less than 18 years	16	0.9%
18-21 years	96	5.4%
22-30 years	309	17.4%
31-40 years	485	27.3%
41-50 years	501	28.2%
51-60 years	313	17.6%
More than 60 years	59	3.3%
Total	1779	100.0%

Have you experienced domestic violence?

Response	Male	Female	Transgender
Yes	23.7%	55.5%	60.0%
No	76.3%	44.5%	40.0%
Base	1289	483	5

Days that Mental Health was Not Good by Whether Mental Health Services are Being Received

For how many days during the past 30 days was your mental health not good?	Are you currently receiving mental health services?				
	Yes		No		Total
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	
0 days	24	3.8%	602	96.2%	626
1-7 days	38	14.3%	227	85.7%	265
8-14 days	34	18.8%	147	81.2%	181
15-21 days	63	38.7%	100	61.3%	163
22-30 days	93	35.9%	166	64.1%	259
Total	252	16.9%	1242	83.1%	1494

Received Alcohol Counseling by Whether or not Alcoholism was Experienced

Have you received alcohol counseling?	Have you experienced alcoholism?			
	Yes		No	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Yes	161	20.0%	19	1.9%
No	642	80.0%	963	98.1%
Total	803	100.0%	982	100.0%

Received Drug Counseling by Whether or not Drug Addiction was Experienced

Have you received drug counseling?	Have you experienced drug addition?			
	Yes		No	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Yes	153	19.2%	17	1.7%
No	645	80.8%	968	98.3%
Total	798	100.0%	985	100.0%

Sources of Income

Source of Income	Frequency	Percent
No income from any source	484	27.6%
Income from other sources	530	30.2%
Income from government sources	368	21.0%
Income from government and other sources	373	21.3%
Total	1755	100.0%

Appendix V: Definitions

Chronic Homelessness is defined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs as "an unaccompanied homeless individual with a disabling condition who has either been continuously homeless for a year or more, or has had at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years."

Emergency shelter is the provision of a safe alternative to the streets, either in a shelter facility, or through the use of motel vouchers. Emergency shelter is short-term, usually for 30 days or less. Domestic violence shelters are considered emergency shelter, as they provide safe, immediate housing for victims and their children.

Homeless Persons, according to the Stewart B. McKinney Act of 1987, are people who lack a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence, and have a primary nighttime residence that is either a public or private shelter, an institution that provides temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized, or a public or private location that is not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.

Transitional housing is more long-term housing, and can last up to two years. Transitional housing requires that the resident participate in a structured program to work toward the established goals so that they can move on to permanent housing. Residents are often provided with an array of supportive services to assist them in meeting goals. In transitional housing, residents may or may not pay rent.

Permanent supportive housing is for persons with a disability, usually mental illness or substance abuse, HIV/AIDS or related illness/disability. Residents of permanent supportive housing pay affordable rents based on their income, and they can stay for as long as they wish, or as long as they have the disability. Residents receive supportive, rehabilitative services to help them live as independently as possible.

Census Designated Places (CDPs) - Census 2000 Criteria. Census designated places (CDPs) are closely settled, named, unincorporated communities that generally contain a mixture of residential, commercial, and retail areas similar to those found in incorporated places of similar sizes. The Census Bureau works with local participants to delineate boundaries for CDPs. By defining CDPs, the Census Bureau can tabulate and disseminate data for localities that otherwise would not be identified as places in the decennial census data products.

Each CDP will contain an identifiable core encompassing the area that is associated strongly with the CDP name and contains the majority of the CDP's population, housing, commercial structures, and economic activity. A CDP must comprise a reasonably compact and continuous land area internally accessible to all points by road. (Except where parts of a CDP are separated by a narrow corridor of incorporated territory, or where the topography or geographic patterns of settlement are not compact, but are

irregularly shaped.) A CDP may not be located partially or entirely within an incorporated place or another CDP. A CDP encompasses the surrounding closely settled territory associated with the place name. The Census Bureau does not intend for a CDP to be an apartment complex or residential subdivision in densely settled areas or simply a crossroads in rural areas.

There are no minimum or maximum population thresholds for recognition as a CDP. This represents a substantial change from all prior CDP criteria.

A CDP name may not duplicate the name of an adjacent or nearby incorporated place.

A CDP may not be located in more than one state, nor may a CDP cross the boundaries of American Indian reservations (AIRs), American Indian trust lands, or a Tribal Jurisdiction Statistical Areas (TJSA)s. A CDP, however, may cross county and county subdivision boundaries.

A CDP may not be coextensive with Alaska Native village statistical areas (ANVSA), county subdivisions, counties, AIRs, TJSA, and states. (Exceptions are: Arlington County, Virginia, towns in New England, townships in New Jersey and Pennsylvania, and charter townships in Michigan.

CDP boundaries should follow visible and identifiable features, such as roads, rivers, canals, railroads, and above-ground high-tension power lines. The following nonvisible governmental unit boundaries are acceptable as CDP boundaries:

- All state and county boundaries.
- All minor civil division (MCD) boundaries (generally towns and townships) in Connecticut, Indiana, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont.
- Some MCD boundaries in Illinois (townships only, not election precincts), Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri (governmental townships only), Nebraska (townships only, not election precincts), North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.
- Barrio, barrio-pueblo, and subbarrio boundaries in Puerto Rico, census subdistrict boundaries in the Virgin Islands, MCD-county and island boundaries in American Samoa, and municipal district boundaries in the Northern Mariana Islands.
- All incorporated place boundaries.
- American Indian reservation boundaries.
- American Indian trust land, Alaska Native village statistical area, and Alaska Native Regional Corporation boundaries.

Appendix VI: News Articles

- San Jose Mercury News Editorial, Wednesday December 15, 2004
- San Jose Mercury News Article, Thursday December 16, 2004
- San Jose Mercury News Article, Tuesday February 8, 2005

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Mercury News Editorial

Ending homelessness

THE RIGHT ALTERNATIVES CAN GET THE HOMELESS OFF THE STREETS AND SAVE MONEY

Posted on Wed, Dec. 15, 2004

Imagine ending homelessness in America in 10 years.

Sound like a pipe dream? The Bush administration doesn't think so. It has taken on the challenge, armed with new research showing that providing the right housing opportunities can get even long-term homeless people off the streets. That, in turn, saves money on health care and other services while strengthening communities.

Nearly 20 years ago, Americans woke up to the homeless "crisis." The sagging economy and tight rental market, compounded by the closing of mental hospitals, had put thousands of people on the streets. When then-Gov. George Deukmejian first opened California's National Guard armories as winter shelters in 1987, homelessness was considered a temporary problem, much like an earthquake or flood.

But the problem didn't go away. Despite efforts to build affordable housing and open new shelters, armories in Sunnyvale, Gilroy and across the state still fill up each winter. Thousands of "chronically homeless" people -- the mentally ill, substance abusers, the disabled and victims of domestic violence -- bounce between shelters, jails, hospitals and the streets.

At last, officials have realized that emergency shelters aren't the long-term solution for the chronically homeless. Instead, we should offer them permanent "supportive" housing, linked to services like mental health care and substance abuse treatment.

Research shows that with this support, even hard-core homeless people will stay off the streets and be less of a burden on public services. In New York City, for example, supportive housing saves more than \$16,000 a year per person in health care, emergency and shelter resources. Other studies show that supportive housing reduced emergency-room visits 58 percent and jail time 50 percent.

These services are expensive, but the feds are offering grants to local and state governments -- as long as they come up with 10-year plans to address their homeless needs. In addition, in California Proposition 63 will provide \$750 million a year for mental health services.

In Santa Clara County, a task force is developing a plan so the county can qualify for federal money. As a first step, this week volunteers have been visiting shelters and places where homeless people congregate to get the first-ever comprehensive count of the county's homeless population.

Once we know the size of the problem, we can begin to solve it. Can that be done in 10 years? Only with a sustained, combined effort by government, non-profits and the community.

The Mercury News

MercuryNews.com

Posted on Thu, Dec. 16, 2004

Santa Clara County takes first census of its street dwellers

By Putsata Reang

To find some of Santa Clara County's homeless men and women, follow Willie Kramer out to the creekside behind the PruneYard Inn in Campbell. Wade through a thicket of bush and bramble, grab the rope rigged to a tree and climb up the steep, muddy slope.

Small coves hollowed out in the bushes, a fire ring, and a bent spot along the chain-link fence are evidence of what he's looking for: the street dwellers who climb up to hideaways like this to sleep in relative safety, protected from wind, rain and cops.

Kramer, a no-nonsense 33-year-old man with a dark beard and several missing teeth, has been homeless for the past couple of years. But for two days this week, he has been a sought-after man, as the county embarked on an ambitious effort: its first street count of the homeless.

A more accurate tally of the county's homeless can help officials better tailor their services and raise more funds to tackle the homeless problem, which county leaders want to eradicate in 10 years. Nearly 300 trained community volunteers and homeless "experts" teamed up to canvass South Bay streets Tuesday and Wednesday to tally how many men, women and children live in city parks, along the rivers and in cars.

'Moral thing to do'

"It's the moral thing to do, and it's the fiscally correct thing to do," said Supervisor Jim Beall, co-chair of the committee in charge of drafting the 10-year plan, which met for the first time



Patrick Tehan / Mercury News

Peter Connery, vice-president of Applied Survey Research, organizes census workers gathered at the Bill Wilson Center in Santa Clara at 4:30 a.m.

Wednesday night. The federal Community Development Block Grant that helps pay for homeless programs has decreased by roughly \$100,000 each year out of about \$3.1 million, and next year the county will lose its \$40,000 annual Emergency Shelter Grant.

Although the county has no official homeless count, a 2000 survey revealed 20,000 "episodes" of homelessness -- people who reported being homeless at some point in the previous year. But those who work with this population say that that number is far from accurate. The county's homeless coordinator, Margaret Gregg, expects numbers from this new count to be much lower.

"Some people think there are no homeless people, and other people think there are more homeless people than you can shake a stick at. The number is somewhere in between," said Barry Del Buono, executive director of the Emergency Housing Consortium, which houses 1,500 homeless people on any given night in its shelters.

Some won't be counted

The count won't be completely accurate, according to Peter Connery, vice president of Applied Survey Research, which conducts the count.

The homeless who sleep on friends' couches or who work swing shifts won't be counted, because the survey counts only homeless people on the street. But Connery promises at least a better count.

Other cities and counties across the nation are joining in as recent federal mandates have required more accurate data before agencies such as the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Services dispense grants.

So far, 170 cities and counties also have or are developing 10-year strategies to end homelessness. Santa Cruz, Monterey, Contra Costa and San Francisco counties have conducted similar street counts.

"It's a national movement," said Philip Mangano, director of the federal Interagency Council on Homelessness. Santa Clara County's census began at 4:30 a.m. Tuesday, to avoid counting people twice. People at homeless shelters, which open their doors a few hours later, were counted separately.

The idea to recruit members of the homeless community to help won wide praise from participants. About 75 percent of the volunteers were homeless, according to Connery. Not only did they know where to look, but they also earned \$10 an hour in cash.

Carla Williams, 33, once made \$90,000 a year as a marketing and communications specialist for a dot-com that died. She hit the streets on Dec. 17, 2002, when she could no longer afford her rent. She recently moved into a subsidized apartment in San Jose and works odd jobs to pay the rent. "You do all sorts of little jobs like this," said Williams, who helped with the count. "Being homeless, it's a pride-swallowing experience."

Reporting for duty

On Tuesday morning, about 150 counters -- most of them homeless -- showed up for their assignments at St. Joseph's Cathedral in downtown San Jose. They rode buses, light rail, walked,

and some drove cars to get to their precincts. Most had made their way back to the church by 9 a.m. and swapped stories as they stood in line to get paid.

James McDonald, 45, who has been homeless for the past seven years, rode the No. 22 bus all night to make sure he'd arrive at St. Joseph's in time to work. Within an hour on the job, he found himself fending off an attack by an angry Rottweiler. His census partner, Nicholas Hatridge, 25, who is also homeless, showed up just in time to chase the dog away. Together, they counted 60 homeless men and women.

Across town, Kendoll Nalan, 30, and Christine Graham, 47, were battling a feisty old car as they cruised San Jose's Blossom Hill neighborhood in Graham's 1984 Chrysler LeBaron. It sputtered to a stop every 15 minutes, even though the car's automated audio system informed its driver on several occasions: "All systems are working." "You're lying!" Graham yelled, in the semi-dark of the morning. Both women are homeless, and in the tony Blossom Hill neighborhood, they returned with just two marks on their sheet: themselves. "We'll count ourselves, because no one is going to count us," Graham said.

Retiree gets involved

Homeless men and women were not the only ones out counting. Jack Sutcliffe, who retired five years ago as an engineer with the Santa Clara County Water District, got involved.

"Personally, I wanted to get a better handle of it," he said of the county's homeless. Organizers say it will take a couple of months before the results are completed. In the meantime, the counters will take to the streets again next week to interview 2,000 of their fellow street-dwellers to learn the details of their plight.



Posted on Tue, February 8, 2005

Homeless survey results released

COMPREHENSIVE TALLY IS FIRST STEP IN EFFORT TO FORMULATE A 10-YEAR PLAN TO END PROBLEM

By Brandon Bailey and Dan Stober

More than 7,100 men, women and children are without homes in Santa Clara County -- living in emergency shelters, camping along San Jose's soggy creek banks and even huddling on a rooftop overlooking Palo Alto's trendy University Avenue.

That's the conclusion of the latest and perhaps the most comprehensive effort by officials to get a handle on the problem of homelessness in Santa Clara County. The results of the survey, conducted over two days in December, were greeted Monday with dismay.

"These numbers are shocking," said Santa Clara County Supervisor Jim Beall, who called the figures "especially troubling, given the level of wealth in our county." But the results came as no surprise to a 61-year-old woman who was hiding out from the rain Monday in a tent overlooking San Jose's Coyote Creek.

"There's getting to be more of us, not less," said the woman, who calls herself Mama Faye. At her tidy squatter's camp, firewood was neatly stacked and a large tarp kept her fire pit and cooking pots dry.

It's difficult to confirm whether the number of homeless people is increasing, because the last county survey in 2000 counted something different: It estimated 20,000 "episodes" of homelessness, in which people reported being homeless at some point during the previous year.

This time, spurred by a federal policy that ties accurate counting to financial grants for homeless services, county officials hired a professional research firm that sent teams into the streets and conducted an actual head-count of every homeless person they could find. The survey teams, who toured every one of the county's 351 census tracts, included a number of homeless people who used their own experience to find people in out-of-the-way places.

The result was a snapshot of the homeless problem, which officials say is a first step in producing a 10-year plan for ending chronic homelessness. Such plans are also strongly encouraged by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and many California cities and counties are now conducting similar surveys.

Almost two-thirds of the 7,121 homeless people found in Santa Clara County were living in places "unfit for human habitation" -- sleeping in cars, squatting in garages or camping outdoors like Mama Faye, officials said.

Only 2,778 of the total were found in traditional shelters such as National Guard armories and others operated by InnVision, EHC LifeBuilders (formerly known as Emergency Housing Consortium), or other service groups.

But even though shelter operators said virtually all their beds have been filled every night in recent weeks, county officials said the survey should not be viewed as an argument for building more temporary facilities.

"I don't want us to put our resources into shelter space, because that's not a permanent solution," said Margaret Gregg, the county's Homeless Concerns Coordinator.

The county now has about 3,000 temporary and transitional shelter beds, counting programs operated by public and private agencies, said Anne Ehresman, chief development officer for InnVision, which operates shelters and other programs in several Santa Clara County cities.

"We don't want to have 7,000 shelter beds," Ehresman said, agreeing with Gregg that the better solution is to get more people into permanent, low-cost housing. Current federal policy is geared in that direction, and federal grants for new emergency shelters are rare, she added.

As part of Santa Clara County's \$167,000 project, survey teams also gathered detailed information from about 1,800 homeless people, which will be used to analyze the causes of homelessness and develop better services. Those results are expected at the end of March.

But a spokesman at one non-profit housing agency said the preliminary figures were already striking.

"What impresses me, or I should say depresses me, most about these figures is they show the lack of resources for families and individuals in this area," said Poncho Guevara of South County Housing in Gilroy.

The same problem exists in upscale Palo Alto, said Robert Pritchett, who sells bumper stickers on the sidewalks of University Avenue. Though some officials say that homeless women and families have more need for services, Pritchett said it's hard for a single man to get help, too.

When night falls, he said, he retreats to a nearby rooftop. "Right up next to one of those vents, so I stay warm," he explained.

Others interviewed Monday said they would love to find a home or apartment that they could afford.

But even an apartment that rents for \$400 a month is out of reach for some, said Leo Phelps, 47, who has been staying at an Emergency Housing Consortium shelter just south of downtown San Jose for several months. Phelps, who lost his job with a medical equipment firm three years ago, said many homeless people need jobs, while others work but still can't afford to pay rent.

And some are addicts or mentally ill, he added. They may need other types of help.

It's a complex problem, he said. "To end homelessness in 10 years – I don't think it'll ever happen."